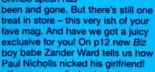


### **1 January 1997** Life, love and everything Just Seventeen

### Ed's letter

Well, the pressies are opened, the turkey's scoffed and the 'Enders Crimbo spesh has



If you wanna find out what your chances of pulling a Paul looky-likey are, take a peek at your personal destiny diary on p27. Are snogs in the stars for you in '97? Go to it, girl! But let's not forget 1996. It was a

large old year and no mistake. Was it 'cause of Ronan's floppy 'do, Joe Wicks' gruesome jumper or the Spice Girls' high-kickin' brand of girl power? Check out the J17

Awards on p8 and let us know your verdict. See ya next week!

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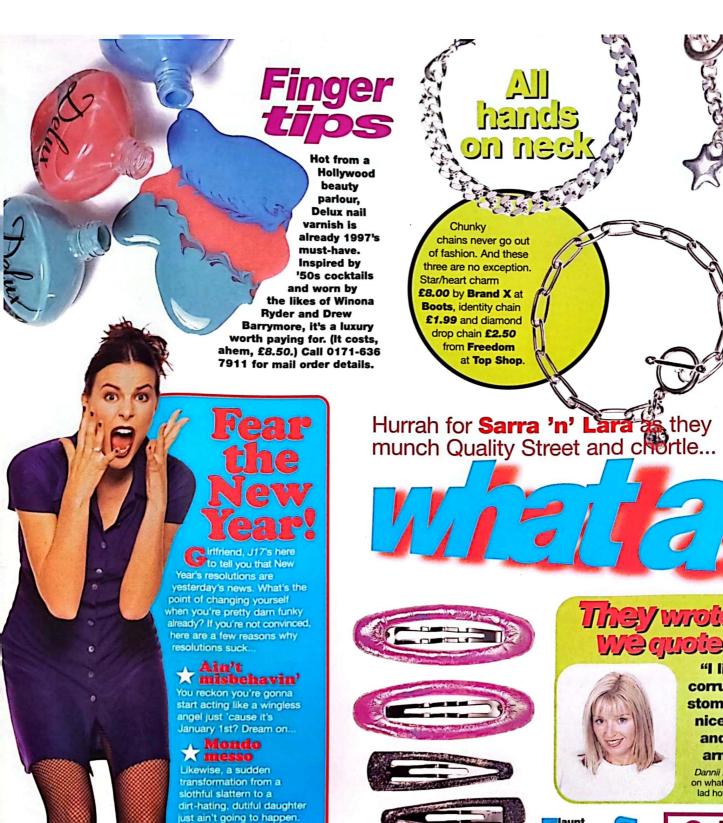
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- A sizzling holiday to Miami
  - Goodies to get yer teeth into
- **Bangin' trance CDs**



And nor should it.

Damned diets

Winter's the worst time to

diet 'cause your body uses

warm. Choccie, crisps and biccies are a far better way of

maintaining body temperature

up extra energy keeping

than munching on lettuce.

Rude mood

stop cussing, all the things that

usually provoke you to obscenity

without turning the air blue!

are still gonna be there. Bet

you can't go five minutes

Even though you agree to

### They wrote it, We quote it

"I like a corrugated stomach, a nice butt and big arms."

Dannii Minogue on what makes a lad hot to trot.

launt your tresses in these glam grips from Top Shop. Pink grips £3, silver glittery grips £2, red glitter hearts £3 and hologram clips £1.99 (two clips per pack).

### Going pearshaped

If you're cursed with the classic English pear-shaped figure, fret no more! A recent survey shows that pearshaped gals live longer and have less chance of getting cancer or heart disease in later life. Pass the full-fat Coke, would ya?



f you're sick of sparkly jewellery then kick back with this dainty gold hen necklace. It's from Argos and at £11.99 it's both cheap and chic.





tart the new year with a clean sweep of your cosmetics. Ditch those mucky mazzies and pop just a few essentials into this swank make-up bag. £10 (including brushes) from Warehouse. The glitter make-up set we've popped in there is £7

from Miss Selfridge.

### Word Up! (No36

Joe College (noun) Origin: Used in straight-tovideo movie Jacknife and by snoot novelist Kurt Vonnegut. Definition: Joe College is a term used for any saddo studenttype found hanging around at, say, an indie gig or jumble sale. Usage: "I met this lad at a Kula Shaker gig, but he turned out to be a right Joe College."

### Gossio...

with celeb queen Sarra

Guess what we found out about Tom Cruise. Give up? Apparently the micro-man is so



exercise that he runs everywhere. He even runs on the spot when people are talking to him. Take a chill pill, you daft 'apeth! \* New best friends are Demi Moore and Fergie, who were seen out together four times in one week on trips to such swank establishments as Harrods and Planet Hollywood \* Les Ferdinand has splashed out £600,000 on a mansion in Barnet, Hertfordshire. Conveniently, his 'good friend' Dani Behr lives just down the road! \* If that's cleaned Les out, maybe Sharon Stone can lend him a few quid. She's about to sign a

deal with designer Ralph Lauren to be the face of his new fragrance and is hoping to pocket a cheque for a blimmin' enormous £9.5 million \* Queen of chat Ricki Lake is so stressed out about her pregnancy, she's started to go prematurely grey. The Lakester's started showing up in the make-up room a whole hour earlier so all the grey can

be covered up \* Oasis have banned the release of a cover of Champagne Supernova by rap group Urban Cookie Collective. The Cookies forgot to ask Oasis' record company for permission and have been told that all preview copies of the single will have to be destroyed. Meanwhile, Noel's

writing a dance track with Goldie for the junglist's new album and Liam's working with ex-Stone Rose John Squire on a song called Love Me And Leave Me. Liam's written both the verse and the melody. Is there no end to his talents?

Les: lives in a

house...



\* Dubstar got on so well with disco kings Erasure when they supported them on tour that Erasure presented Sarah and co with pressies from snoot store Harvey Nichols \* Spotted: Mark from Pulp, Shampoo, The Bluetones' Mark Morriss, Baby Bird and Damon Albarn all gettin' on down at London club Subterania. Happy Noo Year!

'What a week' was written to the sounds of Mike Flowers Pops' Don't Cry For Me Argentina, Boyzone's A Different Beat, Cult Fiction TV Theme Tunes and the Shooting Stars theme.

**Ardal O'Hanlon** Right you are there, Ted **Tenpin bowling** 

sport for people who don't do sport

> Snogmanay girl's gotta do what a girl's gotta do

lilky Bars

The chunky ones, mind

rome Russell glitter

Just the ticket for New Year's Eve

Simpsons chess set We can't actually play chess, but hey, it looks cool

Chef!

The worst sitcom in the world... ever

Indigestion

We blame it on an excess of satsumas

Having to do all your holiday homework in a day

Turkey sandwiches Enough already!

Taking back unwanted gifts

Our tip: get Mum to do it for you

Nicky Campbell

He makes Lisa l'Anson seem almost human



Calling Call fans of The X-Files the truth is in this book! The A-Z of The X Files (Boxtree £7.99) is a guide to all The X-Files evidence vou'll ever need. And we've got 25 copies

to give away. Call **0891 408834** and answer this: What are the surnames of

agents Fox and Dana? comp rules see page 53.

Just Seventeen \* 5



funny thing to be happy about but, compared to most people's, mine are cool. It's my mates who've really drawn attention to the fact that I've got nice feet. I went on holiday with them in the summer and they kept going on about how lovely they are, and were always wanting to give me pedicures!

eature comforts: Deborah Joseph Photos: Stephen Perry

People generally hate feet 'cause they're associated with bad

are quite clean and smooth. They're also long and thin, not hairy, so I'm happy wearing open-toed shoes when a lot of my friends aren't. I don't mind feet that much generally, but I wouldn't say I had a foot fetish!

I do try and look after them. If they start to get dry I'll put a bit of cream on them, and file and paint my toe nails. But I take equally good care

filing and painting.

I wouldn't judge a lad by his feet, but I wouldn't be

"I love we<mark>dring</mark> open-toed shoes

embarrassed to take my shoes off in front of a bloke I fancied either! There are other parts of my body I'd be much more worried about!"

### Head start

Sixteen-year-old Talia Jackson's long blonde locks mean her other imperfections don't bother her a bit!

I'd like to change about myself. I'd love to have longer legs, but even if I did, my hair'd get the most 661°m forever

attention anyway!

Itimately there are things

getting shouts of, most distinctive My barnet's my feature and the thing I'm most happy about.

> Around town, I'm known as 'the girl with the white hair' and get shouts of. Oi blondie!' from blokes all the time.

Oi. blondie!"

A lot of lads comment on my locks it's definitely a good talking point, although I often get accused of bleaching it to get it so blonde. The fact is, I wouldn't want to dye it. I'm lucky that it's a natural part of me and that's why I'm proud of it.

The colour of my hair means I'm easily spotted in a crowd, and don't necessarily have to wear outrageous clothes to get noticed. I do have to wear quite a bit of make-up, though, otherwise my face looks way too pale. I'm dead proud of my hair - it's my one good feature and I'm not afraid to flaunt it.'



## Leggen [

It was 52 weeks chock-full of kooky chicks, feisty flicks and kung fu kicks. Take your seat as J17 presents its ziz-a-zig-awards of '96 and predicts big things for '97...

BEST FILM

Not just another cheesy teen movie, The Craft was spooky, sassy and bursting with top new girl talent (oh, and Skeet Ulrich). Black was the new black, with lashings of thick mazzy and eyeliner. Girl power Goth-style!

### Severely good also-rans... **Independence Day**

Huger than huge special effects,

story line. Mission: **Impossible** Tom Cruise beating the

handsome in an old-geezer kinda way.

Will Smith fresh out of Bel Air, plus a cast of thousands, had us packing out cinemas over the summer. Shame about the sappy

dashed around baddies, looking

### Sizzling in '97

Romeo And Juliet

So you reckon Shakespeare's boring? Then cop a load of Leo DiCaprio and Claire Danes as this classic turns cool.



BABEST BOY

**Paul Nicholls** 

mad Joe Wicks. Paul went from

kids' drama to the 'Enders in

one bound - and won himself

Even with those dodgy shirts

of Nigel's, our Paul's still the

Severely fit also-rans...

wondered how Marky'd cope

on his own. Then he went hippy!

He grew his hair!

After The That split we all

**Mark Owen** 

a truckload of fans on the way.

boy to brave Albert Square for.

Last January he was

the Biz boy, this 'un he's

### **BEST BAND Spice Girls**

If someone had come up to you this time last year and said, 'Zig-a-zig-aah', you'd have legged it. But Spice Girls changed all that and made '96



(and '97 too, we hope) the official year of the girl. Mels B and C, Victoria, Geri and Emma stomped

their platforms all over the charts - and some wannabe boy bands too. Give it up for mate power!

### Severely good also-rans...

The boy band that survived girl power had their first number one with A Different Beat. They're pretty mushy, but we kinda like that.

### **Oasis**

With rumours of a split, a cancelled US tour, and Liam 'n' Pats' public spats, '96 is definitely maybe a year they'd like to forget. But they're still great.

### Sizzling in '97

### The Prodigy

With Keith's everchanging hair and a new LP, The 'Prodge will be hard to dodge this year.

He made an indie album! Oh, and he looked gorge beyond belief in the vid for Child. Sorted!

### Liam Gallagher

He might be bad (or so he reckons) but we love him. With or without the beard, our Li just gets better and better - once you get used to those eyebrows.

### Sizzling in '97

### Leo DiCaprio

He's gonna be all over the place in Romeo And Juliet, in Titanic and probably on yer wall. Hot stuff!

### TOP CHICK Zoë Ball

From Big Breakfast to Live And Kicking, Zoë was as cool-as-you-like. Funny, trendy and mad fer it, we reckon Zoë's everything a loud mouth should be. Let's hear it for tall girls!

### Severely good also-rans... **Alanis Morissette**

OK, so she moans a bit, but she also sold enough discs to buy a desert island. And she did for pigtails what Paul Nicholls did for

manky knitwear. Louise



One minute just another member of Eternal, the next she was Naked, top ten gold and the apple of every lad's eye.

### Sizzling in '97

Yes, there is life after Leto. After snogging the hunksome Jared in My So-Called Life, she's set her

sights on the luscious Leo DiCaprio in the amazing Romeo And Juliet. Are we jealous? Is Joe Wicks barking?

### PROG **EastEnders**

What a year! From Grant and Tiff getting together to

Cindy and David trying to bump lan off, it was a rollercoaster ride down Walford way. Edge-ofthe-seat stuff every blimmin' week!



### Severely good also-rans... Friends

This was the year of the Rachel tiger stripe, Ross 'n' Rach's kisses and Phoebe's Smelly Cat. It gives cred to repeats and we just can't get enough!

### **Live And Kicking**

Zo and Jamie took up where Em and Andi left off. And it's just as good as ever. Worth waking up on a Saturday morning for.

### Sizzling in '97

### **EastEnders**

We reckon the soap to beat all soaps is gonna go from strength to strength. Gorblimey, can't blimmin' wait!





# Mi Ladin

MOST BEAUTIFUL Pastel nail varnish

Drew Barrymore started it, and by the end of summer you couldn't move for baby-cute nails. Blue, pink,

green, yellow and if it wasn't

> Hard Candy, it just wasn't worth havin' schweedie.

Severely chic also-rans... Glitter 'n' shine

The world went spangly as we got some shee-ine on our faces. But if you weren't careful, you ended up looking like you'd waded through an oil slick. **Piercings** 

Keith Prodigy could have been to blame, but everyone seemed to have bits of metal poking out of their navels. noses and, er, tongues. Smart girls faked it - no pain for us!

### Sizzling in '97

### High-street make-up

Miss Selfridge, Warehouse and even Top Shop all introduced ultra-swish new make-up ranges that aren't a drain on yer pocket.

### **MOST TRENDY Acid brights**

Ouch! Our aching eyes. If lime green and citrus orange were your bag, then at least there was no chance of you getting run over in the dark.

Severely chic also-rans... Camouflage gear

Action Man made a comeback in '96 as we strutted our urban J17

### SWANKIEST 'DO

The Rachel

All over the western world girls flocked to their hairdressers demanding a 'Rachel'. Not since The Avengers' Purdey (pudding bowl '70s 'do your mum

commando stuff down the high

street. Dressed up or down, combat trousers looked great and were

dead practical. So let's hear it for

big leg pockets - and lots of 'em.

Forget your old-skool and skatin'

footwear was futuristic, funky and

far-out. From Nike Air Max and Adidas through to Fila, the hottest

suede affairs, this year's cool

Alien trainers

might've had) has a TV series gone to our heads like this. Could've been worse though it coulda been a Joev!

Severely chie alsorans... **Stripes** 'n' two tone The

hippest hair in '96 was dyed

zebra-stylee. From subtle go-faster stripes to crazy-colour two-tone a nation went barnet-bleaching barmy. Wallpaper for your head! **Ponytails** 

Classy. Sophisticated. Well, that's what the snoot fashion mags said. We reckoned top knots made us look like our kid sis'. Still we're over it now, schweedie.

### Sizzling in '97

The Mullet

The-short-on-the-top-long-at-the back tail-cut ironically worshipped

by barnetbores the Beastie Boys and sported by Declan

Donnelly

and ultra-trendy new band Tiger It's set to be the 'do of '97





trainers around were straight outta Power Rangers.

### Sizzling in '97

Snowboarding gear

Wanna keep warm and look cool? Big jackets, padded trousers and moonboots will see us through winter frosts and well into spring It's the look darhling - and it's not just for sports jocks.

### RIGGEST NEWS

The Ridings School The worst school in Britain?

Certainly the most talked about. But who was to blame? The teachers? The pupils? Or the government? Everyone had their say, it seemed - except the pupils themselves.

The death of headmaster Philip Lawrence

Philip Lawrence was tragically knifed by a pupil from another school during a gang fight. The incident illustrated the dangers of playground violence - for pupils and teachers. Ban knives, say we.

Alco-pops

Forget beer and wine, '96 saw the government get all jittery about lemonade-stylee alcoholic drinks. But if they're so worried, shouldn't they be cracking down on the shopkeepers who sell the stuff, not the kids who buy it?

### News for '97

Positive news about teens in the papers, we hope. Not everyone under 17 is up to no good, y'know!



Slam your pen lid down and scribe it all around! If you wanna sound off write to me, Piers c/o 'Mail Bonding', J17, PO Box 417, London. WC2H 7TW. Best letter gets a Spice-shaped goodie bag.

Star Letter

Beale squea

skool of drool' (27 Nov) I noticed a certain Steven Mackintosh. The next time I looked I thought it was Ian Beale from EastEnders! In future. please don't include anyone who even vaguely resembles sad soap characters as I'd hate anyone to think I had any respect for lan or his saddo moustache.

EastEnders (but not an lan Beale) fan

 Cripes, it's uncanny that someone so slick (Ste) could resemble someone so sick (lan). So no more poster boys that resemble soap stars, you say? And we were so looking forward to the special Keanu/Ken Barlow four-page pull-out...



I've just read 'It's great when you wait!' (27 Nov) and I can't believe Kim said you can spot girls who aren't virgins any more. I'm 15 and go clubbing every week, have a lot of male friends, do all the stuff non-virgins do - and yet I've never had sex! Kim, you don't have to have an allergy to the opposite sex to be a virgin you know!

An angry reader, Wakefield Virginity, schminity. Two girls, two accounts of the same subject - so who's right? Or could it be that generalisations are pointless 'cause virginity's a personal thing? Go figure, the both of you...



### one **star**

Last week our school had a non-uniform day to raise money for Children in Need.

I wore a crazy outfit and when my friends saw me, they were too embarrassed to speak to me! Be proud of who you are, that's what I

say. Look at the celebs who don't conform - Keith Prodigy, Jarvis Cocker, Jas Mann... Don't call me 'weird' and

a blue tint to her hair, Sussex Schweedie, haven't you heard? Fitting in is sooo last year. It's not you who has to get with the new clothing, it's them who need to get hip to the fashion tip. Bitchiness among mates? We're sooo over that.

An angry hippy with more than

I won't call you 'normal'!

Largin' it in scribesville this week: Praise for 'Living in fear', our bullying spesh \* Isn't Mark Owen the cutest? ★ Info please on boxer Prince Naseem \* Boyzone are better than Spice Girls

I'd just like to say 'Sort it out. honey!' to Hogan from 'Love

bugs' (27 Nov). The only person this boy loves is himself and if he can't remember how many girlfriends he's had, why on



this idiot single now? Personally I wouldn't touch him with a bargepole. Mrs Leto, Clayhall

Ooh yes, he was a bit of a cheeky pup that Hogan. But as for the bargepole, of course you're not gonna want to touch him, Mrs Leto. You're married to Jared!

You being a bloke, I thought I should warn you about the

future: us girlies are gonna rule the world! And here's why...

- 1. The foetus in the womb is originally female. This is symbolic. 2. We share our troubles and fears with our mates
- which makes us emotionally stronger. 3. Basically, we're
- just much better! But don't worry, I can think of plenty of uses

for boys even though they're vastly inferior beings - just use your imagination! Nora, Shropshire

 You haven't perchance got a bunch of mates with a penchant for catchy ditties, kung fu kicks and saucy outfits have you? By 'eck, Nora, this girl-power palaver's catching!





Baker/Daniel Halpin Illustration © Polly Dunbar 1996



The delicate smell of fresh washed laundry.

A slim and discreet shape. A comforting cottony softness. That's Carefree Laundry Fresh. And that's what a fresh on panty feeling is all about.

Carefree Laundry Fresh are the panty liners that help keep your knickers feeling fresh on and



you feeling good. Wherever you are, whatever you're doing, whoever you're with. And with the hypoallergenic fragrance on the back of the liner, you can be confident your skin's protected, too.

So what are you waiting for?

An offer as good as this won't be on line for long.



Zander. you play a new character in The Biz. What's he like? "My character's called Terry and he's in an upand-coming boy band. We perform at loads of clubs hoping to get a recording contract and hit the big time."

Was it fun playing a pop star? "The character was easy, 'cause I just had to be me. The singing part was difficult, though. We had to mime to the camera getting the words spot on, do the dance steps, then sing the song in the recording studio. And all the while, 45 crew are watching."

Are you ready to be compared to Paul Nicholls? "When I was doing Boot Street they were filming the first series of The Biz in the same place. There was a bit of friction between me and Paul - we'd give each other dirty looks across the canteen, as if we were rivals or something."

Have you seen each other since then?

"Paul makes a couple of brief appearances in this series of The Biz and I bumped into him when he came in to do his scenes. We do this end-of-term show at the school, and because Paul's character is such a big film star, he comes back to watch the show."

What was the atmosphere like when you two met up again? "I guess we were a bit wary d reither be

of each other. After all, he had nicked my girlfriend."

He what? **Paul Nicholls** nicked your girl? "Yeah, Danielle

got a part as one of the dancers in the first series of The Biz. I'd only been going out with her for about three weeks when Paul came along and snogged her for a week or two. Then when that fizzled out, we got back together. Six months later he told a magazine he'd had a girlfriend called Danielle, a dancer in The Biz, who he still cared for. But me and Dan are still very much an item."

So you 'n' Paul are hardy best buds?

"People say to me, 'He's still a bit wary of you because of Danielle.'

Oo-er! Does that mean you're in lots of saucy

## "A male of mine is a real ladies' man, but I'm not interested in numbers"

together when things didn't work between her and Paul -I wasn't trying

to get one up on him just because he was famous."

Career-wise, is Paul a bit of a hero to you? "No. To me, a hero is someone like Gary Oldman, because

I think he's amazing. I'd rather be taken seriously as an actor than be just a magazine pin-up. I'm not saying Paul

Oh no. So what do you think of him in EastEnders? "He's improved. He's more confident and his acting's got better. I'm not saying I'm Robert De Niro, but when I saw the first

ricusiy

રંસમાં તાલ

is, mind you."

series of The Biz... well. Paul was only a kid. He plays Joe very well. It's an annoying part, but he pulls it off."

Would you fancy a juicy part in a soap?

"I don't really want to do TV all my life. I'd like to go out to Hollywood, It's a nice lifestyle the stardom and the money is unbelievable. It'd be wonderful to go to the Oscars and all the parties. I'm about to start work on a movie called Look Like The Innocent. It's a bit different from my usual stuff - I play a drug dealer. The film's quite shocking, pretty explicit."

I haven't got any sex scenes. Well, there's no actual sex, but there are scenes where we're, er, doing this and that."

So you've got an eye for the ladies?

"Danielle knows immediately if I'm checking out the girls. It's weird, girls have a sixth sense about that kind of thing, even if I'm really discreet. If we're out shopping, I could be looking at anything - a

car, a pair of shoes, whatever and she's like, 'What are you looking at?' Slap!"

> Was your first snog one to remember? "It was in the bathroom at a friend's party, when I was eight or nine. Was it with tongues? Yeah! The full works!"

You've been seeing Danielle for three years now. That's a long time for a showbiz relationship! "I've always had serious relationships. The one before Danielle lasted a year. A mate of mine is a real ladies' man, but I couldn't be like that -

> I'm not interested

> > Jus

in numbers People are always asking me if I'm bored with the same person. but everyone's different, aren't they?"

Where did you and Danielle meet?

"We were at stage school together. We really fancied each other and, although I was going out with another girl, I used to flirt with Danielle. It was a bit of a rebound thing when we first got together, then it all fell into place and I knew I'd done the right thing."

Has anyone else from your stage school made

it big? "I knew Louise Nurding, and Kelle from Eternal. And there's a few people who've done well for

themselves in theatreland one's in the musical Grease."

When you're not working, where can we catch you? "Clubbing. I go to Browns (swank London celeb-haunt) a lot. Anyone can go there, but you have to know the owners to get up to the VIP lounge. I do, so it's cool! The other day, Sid Owen (Ricky in EastEnders) was there with his bodyguards. Celebs don't really faze me. I had to audition with a well- known actor the other day and I wasn't gobsmacked in the slightest. Hmm, Gary Oldman



# The 18-year-olds who shocked America

Brian Peterson and Amy Grossberg made headline news when they killed their own baby. But what made these two 18-year-old American college kids so desperate they'd do such a thing? J17 investigates...

them, Brian Peterson and Amy Grossberg seemed the perfect couple. Both 18, they'd fallen in love when they were classmates at Ramapo High School in New Jersey, USA.

Not only was Brian the best athlete in the school, he was also captain of the football and golf teams. Amy was a talented artist and brilliant at French. Both came from wealthy families. They were straight-A students with their whole lives ahead of them – until the night of 13 November 1996.

Twelve days later Brian and Amy were charged with murdering their newborn baby son and dumping his body in rubbish bins at the back of a cheap motel in the state of Delaware, USA. If convicted, they could face execution.

The couple's plight has shocked America. And as the police have gradually begun to piece together exactly what happened, the big question remains – why?

### To college

Brian and Amy had both
left Ramapo and gone
off to separate colleges –
Amy went to the University
of Delaware and Brian went to
Gettysburg College, Pennsylvania.
Then Amy got pregnant.

For two privileged kids, full of ambition and expectation, it was a disaster. Both were terrified of their college tutors and families finding out. They talked for hours about what to do and, somewhere along the line, came up with a bizarre plan.

Neither of them would tell anyone about the pregnancy. Amy would give birth in secret and Brian would help deliver the baby. What came next no-one could have guessed.

### Pact of silence

For nine long months they kept their secret. Amy wore baggy jumpers and loose clothes. Her parents had no idea she was pregnant. Her friends at college suspected, but no-one liked to ask. "You knew, but you didn't

after midnight, Amy phoned Brian to tell him her waters had broken, Brian jumped into his car and drove as fast as he could to Delaware, 200 miles away. He picked Amy up from her dormitory around 3am. and they checked into the nearby Comfort Motel.

Amy went into

labour almost immediately, and

Brian helped deliver their son. He was born weighing 6lb 2oz. Less than an hour later their baby was dead, killed by repeated blows to his skull. His tiny body had been stuffed into a grey plastic laundry bag along with blood-soaked towels and sheets. The whole horrific package had been dumped in a rubbish bin.

A couple of hours later Amy and Brian checked out of the Comfort Motel.

Brian drove Amy round the corner to her college, then began the 200 mile drive back to his own. Just "Less than an hour later their baby was dead, killed by repeated blows to the head"

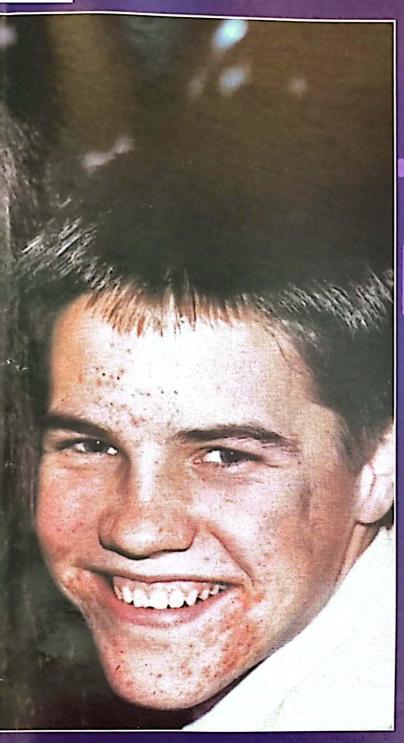
Amy and Brian: the kids who had everything

before 6am Amy started to bleed heavily and collapsed. A friend called an ambulance and Amy was rushed to hospital where doctors soon established she'd just given birth. But where was her baby?



know," one of her friends said later. The secret pact culminated in the early hours of 13 November. Just

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It was only a matter of time before the truth was discovered. Once the hospital realised Amy's newly-born baby was missing, the police were called in. Amy's friends

were in shock and gave the police Brian's name. Less than an hour later a campus cop and

a campus cop and student counsellor Scott Simonds knocked on the door of Brian's room. "I could see something was wrong," Simonds remembers. By then Brian was in a terrible state. According to legal records filed that morning, he broke down

and confessed that he and Amy had "gotten rid of the baby".

Delaware cops were despatched to the Comfort Motel, and within seconds, tracker dogs found the



plastic sack containing the baby's corpse. More blood-soaked sheets were found in Amy's bedroom and further incriminating evidence was discovered hidden in Brian's car. The cause of death was multiple fractures to the brain due to blunt blows and shaking. The couple who had everything were now the prime suspects in a brutal killing.

### What happened?

Amy, lying ill in hospital, was unlikely to go anywhere. Brian was arrested, questioned and fingerprinted. His police mugshot photo shows a stunned-looking, white-faced boy. Two days later the police charged Brain and Amy with first degree murder, agreeing not to arrest Amy until she was well enough to leave hospital.

Their friends and families are reeling with shock. "You couldn't

make up a story like this," said Seth Chorba, Amy's friend who called the ambulance when she collapsed. "Amy was never down, always smiling, always got out the right side of bed. Noone disliked her." "She was rather a quiet girl," adds her old school friend Gina Pratico. "I just think she was scared to tell her mother about the pregnancy. People gossip in

an area like this.'

Only Brian and
Amy know what went through
their minds during the nine months
they kept their secret. Only they
know why they decided not to tell
their families or even their closest
friends. Why they never even
visited the pregnancy advisory
clinic just a few yards round the
corner from Amy's college. Why
they didn't appear to consider the
options of abortion or adoption.
Or even keeping the baby.

### **Divided** opinions

All anyone knows for certain is that Brian and Amy went through the pregnancy alone – separated by over 200 miles – and that their baby son was battered to death. Some people think the couple

### J17 investigates

deserve sympathy. "Amy was bright and intelligent," her parents' neighbour Pat McLaughlin told the local TV news. "The entire family are lovely people. I truly hope that the jury will find some compassion. These children are not criminals."

But others feel that Brian and Army are murderers regardless of where they come from and how bright they are. And some people believe they did something so evil they should be sentenced to death. A crowd chanted "baby killer" over and over again at Brian when he was arrested.

### Facing the death penalty

Amy and Brian are now being held in custody awaiting trial. Brian has pleaded innocent to the charges



### "Only Brian and Amy know what went through their minds during her pregnancy"

of first degree murder. His parents are so devastated that when he was arrested, his Murn considered fleeing the country with him so he wouldn't face prosecution. But Brian talked her out of it.

Brian and Amy will be tried early this year. And it looks set to be a long and gruesome battle. The dreams of the couple who had everything have gone up in smoke. "How can I give my only born son up to the state to die?" Brian's mum asked. But how can anyone forget the healthy baby who lived only a few minutes before being killed and dumped in a rubbish tip? Whatever the outcome of the trial, Brian and Amy will be haunted by their baby son's memory for the rest of their days – whether or not

they spend them together.

### Why are lads so blimmin' childish? Because girls let 'em get away with it, reckons J17's Damon...

e've all heard the phrase 'Girls mature more quickly than boys'. But if you ask me that's utter rubbish. The correct version should be 'Girls mature, boys don't'. If you're waiting around for a lad to change from a silly, childish individual who enjoys farting in a jam jar and lighting it into a sensitive, thoughtful grown-up, you're in for a very long wait.

With every passing year, girls modify their behaviour to become more dignified, reasonable and in control. Boys, on the other hand, somehow get stuck at 13. Unlucky for some. Unlucky for you.

We may learn to hide our immaturity a little, but it's there for keeps, lurking under the surface. And it'll reveal itself whenever a) we're in large groups, b) we don't get our own

way or c) we're trying to impress you. So why, you may ask, do we insist on behaving like brats all our lives? The answer's simple: because we can.

### A right turn-off

Take Christmas, for example, After you've spent months saving up to buy your boyfriend a trendy jumper, he goes, 'Great, yeah, cheers,' slings it to one side, then grumbles 'cause he didn't get a PlayStation. Or worse, maybe someone has bought him a PlayStation - in which case he'll invite you round, then ignore you for two hours while he sits there going mad with his joystick. He'll then bore you for a further hour bragging about his high score. When he finally lets you have a go, he'll tell you you're doing it all wrong, lose interest, wander off into another room and put the football on.

### Sports jocks

He'll invite you round, then ignore you for two hours while he plays with his joystick?

Sport's the one area where boys are encouraged not to grow up. Being a footie fan is an excuse to behave like an oaf well into old age. So you should take note of the following facts:

they'll still be sitting in front of the TV wearing a red scarf and bobble-hat. They will never love you as

Chances are, lads'll always be

into football. When they're 25,

much as they love Eric Cantona, Robbie Fowler or Peter Beardsley (which is pretty insulting if you know what Peter Beardsley looks like). As one of my mates once said to his girlfriend when she stood in front of the telly during Match Of The Day, 'Listen babe, I've supported Liverpool for ten years and I've known you for three months - get the picture?

Attempts to impress upon them how immature their love of football is, will be met with, 'You'll never understand - you're a girl.'

Don't fight it. This behaviour pattern is as inevitable as Ireland winning the Eurovision Song Contest. If you really can't stand it, give up the fight now and find yourself a lad who's into badminton or something.

### Mine's bigger than yours

Sport, you see, gives boys a perfect excuse to indulge in our favourite activity - competing with each other. Ever heard us arguing about football? 'We're brill. You're cack,' is the thrust of the debate. The person who shouts loudest wins.

Competitiveness is the strongest force in the male universe. That's why we get jealous when you talk to another bloke, especially if he's better-looking, richer or a better dancer. And competitiveness is partly why we like to buy things like flash watches and expensive stereos -

### Cable guys

When my friend Debbie asked me last week what she should get her boyfriend for his birthday, I told her, 'Anything that takes batteries.' Lads just love gadgets. It doesn't matter what, anything that's black or silver and has buttons. That's why we hog the TV remote and love

so we can boast to our mates.

the Internet. Not just so we can access saucy pictures

but 'cause computers have loads of buttons.

### **Engine trouble**

Put two lads in front of a Scalextric set and within minutes they'll be all overexcited and stroppy when they lose.

We never grow out of this, the cars just get bigger. A grown man gets a flash motor and within seconds he'll be pretending he's at Brands Hatch. going, 'Vroom vroom!' Give us 20 years and we'll be lovingly Turtle Waxing our motor on Sundays. Sad, huh?

### Like, why?

OK, I know all this is annoying, but there are reasons for it. Firstly, we boys find it quite difficult to talk to each other without the aid of a prop, and comparing the merits of CD Walkmans provides us with hours of decent convo. And it has to be said that you girls encourage us to behave like kids. (Yes, you do.) You find it secretly endearing. Just look at the fan mail Men Behaving Badly lads get. And then there's Joey and Chandler from Friends. Who can forget Chandler getting in a lather about the Baywatch credits, "Run, Yasmine. Run like the wind!"

### The lowdown

When lads act so immature, it lets you girls look down on us as if we're sad wretches who need looking after. That's why, if we fart on your head or summat, all we have to do is put on a puppydog face and you'll forgive us. If being a kid works, why should we change?

### 5 big kids you know and love



✓ Jim Carrey Mature, sensible individual. Not.

▼ Liam Gallagher Mad and bad. But wouldn't you love

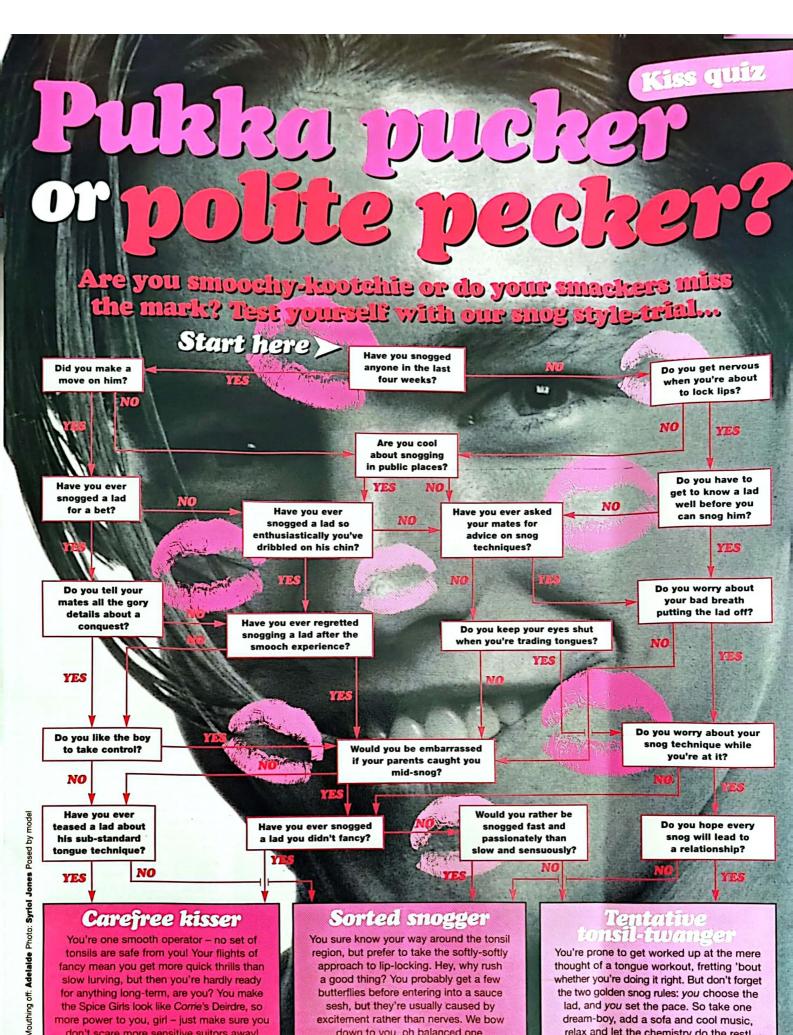


Ant and Dec The Peter Pans of pop.





16 \* Just Seve



### Carefree kisser

You're one smooth operator - no set of tonsils are safe from you! Your flights of fancy mean you get more quick thrills than slow lurving, but then you're hardly ready for anything long-term, are you? You make the Spice Girls look like Corrie's Deirdre, so more power to you, girl - just make sure you don't scare more sensitive suitors away!

### Sorted snogger

You sure know your way around the tonsil region, but prefer to take the softly-softly approach to lip-locking. Hey, why rush a good thing? You probably get a few butterflies before entering into a sauce sesh, but they're usually caused by excitement rather than nerves. We bow down to you, oh balanced one.

### Tentative tonsil-twanger

You're prone to get worked up at the mere thought of a tongue workout, fretting 'bout whether you're doing it right. But don't forget the two golden snog rules: you choose the lad, and you set the pace. So take one dream-boy, add a sofa and cool music. relax and let the chemistry do the rest!



## ifalse

For Jakki Goodall and her friend Liana Nesbeth, both 19, (right) a routine shopping trip turned into three and a half hours of hell...

"My face was

burning. The other

ne day last March Liana and I had the morning off college, so we decided to go shopping in Birmingham, where we live. We popped into British Home Stores and while we were in the lingerie department, picked out a selection of stuff and headed for the changing rooms.

The cubicles were locked, so we hung some of the

clothes on a rail nearby and kept hold of the rest as we went to find a shop assistant

to open the cubicles.

The assistant checked the items, took some from us 'cause we had too many, gave us a disc each and unlocked the doors.

A few minutes later, I came out of the cubicle to swap the clothes I'd tried for the ones I'd left with the assistant. After that, we decided not to buy anything, so we gave everything back to the assistant.

### Rough justice

By then, Liana and I were on the verge of being late for college, so we decided to get a move on. But as walked out of the main entrance, I noticed two security guards behind us. One of them put his hand on Liana's arm.

'Excuse me, can you come

back with us?' he asked. We were so shocked, neither of us said a word. The security guards took us back through the shop and down to the basement. My face was burning as all the other shoppers stared at us.

We were led into a small, bare office with just a desk and wooden bench in it, and I noticed an

adjoining room with video cameras. A woman came shoppers just stared" in and said.

> 'We're arresting you on suspicion of shoplifting.' I was stunned and slid down onto the wooden bench. The woman, who was the head of security, started to question us.

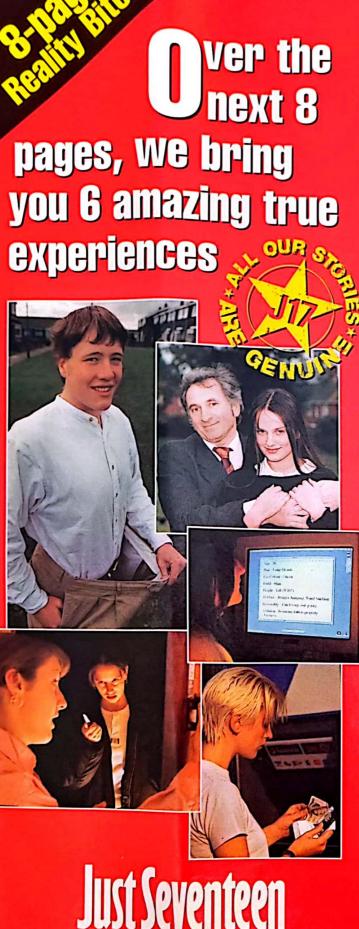
'Come on, ladies,' she said. 'We've been watching you on the cameras. Give us back the stuff.' For a split second I almost wished we did have some stuff to give them, because I didn't have a clue what they were looking for. They must've been able to see we didn't have anywhere to hide anything - both of us were only carrying tiny handbags. At that point, Liana asked what they were talking about. I remember thinking how brave she was -I could only stare at the floor.

The head of security turned to the two security officers and said, 'Don't waste your time with them they're not worth it.' Then they all went next door to watch the video. Liana and I strained to hear what they were saying. We wanted to know what we'd supposedly taken.

### What's going on?

When someone mentioned the word 'nighties', I finally clicked what they were talking about. They must've thought we'd stolen some of the clothes we'd left on the rail before we asked the shop assistant to open the cubicles.

'We can tell you where the



**Tons of toe-curling confessions** 

every week

clothes are,' Liana called out. 'They're hanging on a rail near the changing area,' I added.

'Oh no, they're not,' said the head of security. Apparently she'd asked the staff to check the area after we left. My heart sank.

We offered to show them where we'd left them, but they refused. We even suggested that they search us - I wasn't scared any more, and we were both getting cross. But they decided to wait until the police arrived.

### Help is on the way

Two police officers turned up, and the head of security showed them the video. A policewoman searched our bags, which were empty.

Then Liana was asked to go with security to check the changing area. I could tell by the big smile on Liana's face when she returned that they'd found the stuff.

'You're free to go now, girls," said the policeman.

I can't describe my relief. I glanced at my watch - we'd been there for three

and a half hours. On our way out, Liana asked to see the manager. She was livid when she was given a telephone number but no name. We'd been arrested for something we hadn't done, and not one person from the store had applogised to us

We went straight to Liana's house and told her mum She immediately phoned the store and asked to speak to the manager. She couldn get through, so she told us to go to the Citzen's Advice Bureau to see if there was anything we could do.

The next morning, we were both still angry Neither of us had slept much - our minds kept going over and over what happened

At the Citizen's Advice Bureau we explained that we wanted a formal apology. The advice worker gave

"We were livid, Not one person from the store apologised to us"

> us the name of a solicitor who said we had a good case for wrongful arrest. He applied for legal aid -there was no way we had the money to pay his bill or the court costs. Liana and I felt really intimidated

going to court, but it was all worthwhile in the end because we won the case. We were disappointed that only the Bhs solicitar turned up, so we didn't get the apology we wanted. But an added bonus was that we won 22,500 each in compensation.

haven't been back to Bhs since. I don't understand why they arrested

us without listening to our side of the story, but I think they took advantage of the fact we were young it was great getting the money, although I still feel very angry that the Bhs managers aren't big enough to say sorry personally, which is all we wanted."

### Bhs replies

"We are pleased that the incident concerning Ms Nesbeth and Ms Goodall, which took place at our New Street, Birmingham store last March has been resolved. It would be inappropriate for us to comment further on this matter."

- Shoplifting is a serious crime, punishable by law
- If you feel you have been falsely accused of a crime, seek help from your local Citizen's Advice Bureau or contact the Children's Legal Centre on 01206 873820.
- Check out The Teenager's Guide To The Law by Gabrielle Jan Posner (Cavendish Publishing, £8.95). It's an A-to-Z reference book of all things legal, including tips on how to protect your rights

Jakki (left) and Liana: justice is done

Reality bites ★ Reality bites ★ Reality bite

## half th

Steven Worsley, 18, (right) was bullied so much about his 25-stone frame, he decided to do something about it...

was a skinny lad until the age of 13, when Mum started giving me pocket money. I loved chocolate and I'd spend every break stuffing my face with two or three bars.

By the time I was 14, I was 6ft tall and weighed 16 stone. I had to wear an XXXL jumper and my trousers were from an oversize clothes catalogue. I hated myself. Every morning I'd look in the mirror and see this fat, ugly lump.

I tried diets, but they usually only lasted a couple of hours. By the time I turned 15, I was another two stone heavier. I was so depressed and at school the teasing was unbearable.

### Weighty issue

My parents tried to force me to diet and Mum dragged me to the doctor's. But the more I tried to lose weight, the more I piled on. On my 16th birthday I weighed 20 stone. I'd dreamed of getting a 50cc motorbike, but Dad told me I was too heavy to ride one.

That summer I passed my GCSEs and went to the leaving disco. After a few hours, I realised I'd have more fun in McDonald's, so I left. But I didn't know the school bully was following me. Within minutes, he'd beaten me black and blue.

When I got home, I was bleeding heavily so Mum took me to hospital. I was told my right eye was badly damaged and I was lucky to still have my sight. For the next few days I stayed locked in my room. I felt useless and ate for comfort.

Then one day I received a letter saying I'd won a place at catering college to train as a chef.

I couldn't wait to start my course. But being surrounded by all that food was lethal. By the time I turned 17, I had a 56in waist. 54in chest and had to have my chef's trousers specially made.

### lipping the scales

Then, one night, my mates dared me to stand on the scales. I couldn't believe it when they whizzed round twice, then finally rested on the six stone mark. I knew I had to do something.

"I'd look in the mirror and see this fat, ugly lump"



my target weight of 13 stone. So I joined a gym and for the next four months, spent up to three hours a day toning up the excess flesh.

New beginnings

On the morning of my 18th birthday, I jumped on the scales, I weighed 12st 12lbs and had a 34in waist. But the biggest surprise was finding a 50cc motorbike waiting for me on the drive!

That night I decided it was time to show off the new slim me, so I jumped on my bike. When I spotted a few of my mates, I pulled over to speak to them. They didn't even recognise me!

Now my life couldn't be better. Losing all that weight has given

me so much self-confidence, especially where girls are concerned. But more importantly, I've come to realise there's more to life than pasties and chocolate."

Steven now enjoys

his fat-free life

- extreme, but if you're worried about your weight, see your GP for advice on healthy eating.
- Steer clear of faddy diets. They don't work in the long term and can weaken your body and make you ill.
- If you're bullied about your weight, talk to a parent or friend, or ring ChildLine on 0800 1111. Everything you say will be kept confidential.

I started by cutting out sweets, crisps, chocolate and pasties, and I ate two balanced meals a day, usually lean meat or fish and vegetables. If I fancied pigging out, I made do with dry bread and tea.

Of course, I still dreamt of icecream and KitKats, but the thought of more abuse about my weight gave me the determination to carry on dieting.

Within weeks I'd lost two and a half stone and my clothes were hanging off me. But I still couldn't face my friends until I'd reached

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### "Stalked by his osychoex

Life became a nightmare for 16-year-old Jessica. thanks to her guy's last girtfriend...

going out together for two months and things going really well. Then one ngtif we were walking along the high street hand in hand on the way to the cinema, when I heard a girl call his name. Andrew ignored her

The voice shouted again, so I asked him if he'd heard anything but he just said no. Then he started walking really fast. When I asked why he was in such a hurry, he said he didn't want to be late for the cinema. But the film didn't start for ages, so I knew something was up.

### **Fatal attraction**

During the film, Andrew kept locking over his shoulder and seemed really uncomfortable. By now I'd begun to feel a bit funny too. I wanted to know who the girl calling out his name was, but he obviously didn't want to tell me. Later, as he walked me home. I asked him again who the girl was He looked embarrassed and said he hadn't wanted to tell me the whole story before, in case it put me off him, but he'd tell me now.

About a year ago he'd briefly gone out with this girl called Mandy. But he dumped her after a few weeks because she was weind and very possessive. Ever since then, Mandy had been obsessed with him. She'd ring up his mum several times a week to ask



where he was and she'd even started following him around town.

All of sudden, things started falling into place. For the last few weeks I'd been getting mysterious phone calls at home. As soon as I picked up the phone, the person on the other end would hang up. I'd dial 1471 but the calls had been made from a number I didn't recognise. Now I realised who was making the calls. It was Mandy.

"Now I realised who

was making all the

mysterious calls"

That night, after I'd only been home for a few minutes, I heard a knock on the door. When I opened it, a girl I'd never seen before was standing there with a knife in her hand. I've never

been so terrified in my life. She looked as if she'd come to kill me.

I banged the door shut and ran into the living room, screaming. Then I burst into tears and told Mum what was going on. She immediately called the police.

Fifteen minutes later, two policemen arrived and asked me to explain exactly what had happened. then they took a statement from

> me. All I could do was describe what Mandy looked like and what she was

wearing. I didn't know anything else about her. The police tried to calm me down and explained that if they could find out who the girl was, they would take her in for

questioning. But they couldn't press charges because she hadn't even touched me, let alone assaulted me

I hardly slept that night, I was so terrified of Mandy coming back to kill me. Next morning I told Andrew what had happened. He was really upset and said he thought she was mad. **But oddly** enough.

he seemed more worried about himself than me. That was when I knew I had to finish with him.

I couldn't face the thought of having to look over my shoulder every time we went out, and I didn't feel I could trust him any more. After all, it had taken him two months to tell me about Mandy What else was he keeping secret?

### it's over

Four months have now passed, and Andrew and I bump into each other occasionally. I don't think he's forgiven me for finishing with him. Mandy found out he and I had split up, so she leaves me alone now. But part of me still feels a bit scared that she might come back

My current boyfriend has never been out with anyone before, so at least I know he hasn't got any weird ex-girlfriends lurking around!"

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## "I blew my

Her nan saved for a lifetime but Martina. 16, blew her gift in weeks...

Il my life, Nan put aside money each week so I'd have a lump sum for a house or a car when I was older. When I turned 16, I was given a cheque for £3,000. I decided to spend £500 and save the rest.

### Hey, big spender

I went straight to town and took out £50 for a party outfit. I got a really cool dress for £30 and some jewellery. Later, I saw a £50 jacket and decided to have that too. Next day I withdrew £30 to buy some shoes and lipstick. Then I took out

another £30 for a taxi and drinks. Money was no object!

As the weeks went by, I took out cash every day, splurging on anything from McDonald's to a foot spa. One time I bought a £45 top I didn't even like! Before long, my

account was below £2,000 but I thought I'd pay it back when

I started my summer job. But when I began work, I realised

there was no way

"I thought I'd be able

to pay it back"

machine refused -I only had £47.30 left! I couldn't believe it - how could I have

I'd do it on wages

The last week

clubbing every

about £40 a

time, Back

at college,

it was the

same story.

A month

ago, I went

to the cash

machine

to withdraw

£60, but the

night, spending

of £20 a day.

of summer I

went out

spent £3,000 in a few months, with nothing more than a few clothes and lipsticks to show for it?

### Bitter regrets

I feel terrible now. My nan spent 16 years saving up for me and I've blown every penny. What's more, my parents keep saying, 'Next year you can buy a car!' If only they knew! I'm desperately looking for a part-time job so I can earn the money back, but it'll take forever. I'm paying the price for my stupidity."

- If you find yourself in the money, why not stash it away til you find something worthwhile to spend it on?
- Keeping track of your spending is a wise move - dosh has a habit of disappearing faster than David Wicks!

"Internet I my love life"

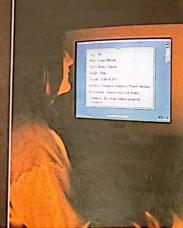
Kate, 14, thought her computer was the answer to all her dating dilemmas...

m 14 years old and have never been out with anyone, let alone got off with a boy. I don't feel very attractive and lads just don't seem to notice me.

### E-male

That was until last Christmas, when I had my new computer hooked up to the Internet. Before long, I'd logged onto an Oasis page and advertised for penpals. Soon I had an e-mail from a lad called Simon. We got on really well and spent a few months sending each other

e-mail notes about school and bands. Then he suggested swapping photos. I was gutted - I hadn't been totally honest. Simon was 16 and said he was a blueeyed blond, so I'd said I had green eyes and long brown hair. It was true, but it made me sound beautiful, which I'm not. I'd even made up an ex-boyfriend and pretended we used to get up to all sorts of wild stuff. In fact I was really describing what my best friend got up to, as my parents wouldn't let me out very often. It was all lies!



"I hadn't been totally honest"

As I started sorting through old photos for a half-decent snap of myself. I came across a school photo of my mum when she was my age, looking really beautiful. I was so desperate I posted it to Simon, saying it was me.

As I suspected, when Simon's photo arrived, he was gorgeous and he said he thought the same of me or rather Mum! As if that wasn't bad enough, he wrote that he was coming down to Cornwall, where I live, the next week to stay with his

### Surprise!

Later that week there was a knock at the door. I opened it and there was Simon. He said, 'Hi, is Kate there?' and without

The penny dropped and he looked eally disappointed. We had a brief chat on the doorstep, but I could

I tried e-mailing him to apologise but he never replied. If I'd only sent him a real photo of myself we'd at least have been friends,

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gran and he'd love to meet up. I e-mailed him back and

pretended I was going away. I felt guilty, but what could I do?

thinking I replied, 'I'm Kate'.

tell he couldn't wait to get away.

but now I don't even have that."

## When the Mafia threatened to kill Paula Kopecna, 14, for kill Paula Kopecna, 14, for

Czech Republic for Britain. Now she's fighting to stay here...

was 11 when Dad told me I was going to get a bodyguard. My first reaction was, 'Cool. I'll be like a film star.' But that was before I realised how serious the situation was

Back then, my dad owned a successful company in Prague in the Czech Republic. But then the local Mafia said they'd kill him if he didn't give them a huge sum of money. I don't know why. Dad told the police, but because the gangsters were so powerful there was nothing they could do and Dad had to hire private bodyguards to protect us.

Suddenly we had five men with guns and dogs following us all the time. Three would go to work with Dad while the other two would walk either side of me wherever I went. If I entered a building or room, they'd always go in first to check it was safe. At school they'd escort me to lessons. then guard the classroom, and at night they stayed in our house.

Dad wasn't the only businessman in our country to employ bodyguards because of all the political changes and poverty, but everyone at school was still very thought it was funny, but my friends understood how scary it was and were very sympathetic.

### **Blackmail threats**

The gangsters rang our house every few days threatening Dad and demanding the equivalent of a year's salary. He kept refusing, but after a couple of weeks they said if they didn't get the money soon they'd kill me too. I was really scared. I thought things like this only happened in movies.

After that I was hardly allowed out and if I did, Dad had to be with me, as well as the bodyguards. I got used to feeling unsafe. Dad was so worried, he said we might have to flee the country. He applied for an American residents' visa but when he told the authorities the reason why, it was refused. After that, Dad asked me where

I'd like to live if we had to leave Prague. Because he spoke a little English and I wanted to learn the language, we decided on Britain. However, because of our US rejection, Dad said it would be safer to pretend we were tourists.

The thought of leaving was very upsetting because I was really happy in Prague. I had lots of friends. lived in a nice my school, and had almost everything I could have wished for.

I was forbidden to tell my friends and even my family I might have to go.

"We have five men with guns and dogs following

Mum and Dad divorced when I was five and my sister Irena, who's two years younger than me, lived on the other side of the city with Mum. Luckily the Mafia didn't know about them so they were safe. They had no idea of the danger we were in. The only person who knew Dad wanted to know what to do about my education. My headmaster said that because I didn't speak English and I would be living illegally, Dad would have to teach me.

us all the time"

Over the next month the threats became more frequent until it was too dangerous for me to go to school. Eventually our bodyguards told Dad it wasn't safe for us to stay any longer.

### Night flight

At 2am on Thursday 11 March 1993, Dad came into my bedroom and said we had to go right away. I just had time to pack my school books, a few clothes and some toys. I'd already given away my tabby cat Minda to Mum, but I had to leave my teddy Michalka behind.

Although I was half asleep I was really scared of the Mafia catching us. Four bodyguards followed us to the Austrian border, but once we drove across, we were on our own. I could tell Dad was acting calm for my sake, but we were both terrified.

As we got further into Austria I began to feel safer and although I was sad at leaving, I felt very free. It was the first time in three months we'd been without bodyguards.

After three days driving, we got the ferry from France to Dover. But the British immigration officials were suspicious of us because

## tes \* Reality bites \* Reality

speak much English and we didn't have any relatives in this country. They spent two hours

British authorities made us go back. It was three months before Dad let me ring my mum and sister. They'd guessed we'd fled the country, but had no idea where we were. They visit regularly now but I still miss them and my friends a lot.

Because I wasn't a resident I couldn't go to state school, but I made a few friends through playing

tennis. If they asked why we were here, we told them it was for the

sporting facilities. Last year Dad paid

for me to go to a private school, and I really settled down. Then this year I won a scholarship to another school, which meant Dad only had to pay half the fees. But then his Czech company closed down and we ran out of money. Dad couldn't even get a job 'cause he didn't have a work permit.

The turning point came when we left the country to go to a tennis tournament and had loads of problems getting back in. That's when we applied to the Home Office for asylum. We've been told our application could take years, but as our tourist visa has run out, we could be sent home any time.

### Fears for the future

The social services give us money to survive on and we're now living me stay on too, but I don't know for how long. One day I'll return to future. When I came here I imagined it would only be for a year or two, but now I think of Britain as my home. I feel safe here."

> To nominate your tatty teach, drop us a line detailing their fashion crimes (plus a photo if poss) to 'Oi, Sir, nooo!', J17, 20 Orange Street, London

GARBARARARA INGCERRATIONS

ot a teacher who's a right old square or scruff-bag? Like, don't they know or scruff-bag? Like, don't they know only Jarvis Cocker can get away with Crimplene trews? Would they benefit from a no-expense-spared tip-to-toe J17 makeover? Then we wanna hear about 'em!

Yep, we'll take your dog-eared member of staff and transform them into someone who won't be an embarrassment to your classroom.

Teach'll be given a swank new hairdo, then be fully styled up by the J17 fash posse. Out go the kipper ties, in come the new-skool techno trainers! And we'll whisk you and a mate off to witness the transformation.

WC2H 7ED. Get scribblin'!

Dad didn't

"They said if they didn't get the money, they'd

kill me too"

us, but eventually believed we were just holidaymakers and let us in.



I loved England straightaway It was a lot cleaner and prettier than the Czech Republic and were much friendlier. We decided to live in

a lovely rural town near a big tennis I'm ranked at the level of England's top junior tennis players. We'd brought £10,000 with us so we rented a flat, and 'cause Dad had transfer money over for food.

Despite leaving so much behind why we were here, in case the

If you have a real-life experience to share, send it to 'Reality bites', J17, 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED. Please include your phone number in case we have to check any facts. If your story's rinted we'll pay you up to £50.



father Cestmir: escaped to Britain





### Delve inside as the complete astro year ahead unfolds before your very eyes...

### **Aries** (21 March – 20 April)

Your year ahead

Whoosh! Is it a bird?
Is it a plane? No. it's
Aries girl! As usual
you're zooming
around, but as '97
progresses you'll
realise you get more
done if you don't do
things at such a
superhero pace.

Mate matters Watch that fiery temper of yours especially in April, June and August.

Money matters You Aries girls are quite a bunch of shopaholics, aren't you? Luckily June 1997 should be a good month to earn much needed cash.

**Shoggy stuff** The planets look set to

make '97 a very romantic year, but more importantly a year in which you emotions will mature considerably. The best time for meeting lads will be mid-March to mid-April. Come July you'll be flirting to the max and if you're already involved, mid-August to mid-September could be the time you feel ready to take the relationship that one step further.

Lad to love Mark March 23 in your diary with a red love-heart 'cause a loveable Leo guy could make his true feelings known to you

### **Taurus** (21 April - 21 May)

Your year ahead

This year you'll be successful in almost everything you do – wa-hey! Even things you thought you were crap at won't seem as difficult. It won't all be plain sailing though, but by the end of 1997 you'll realise that the hard times were somehow necessary.

Mate matters you and your mate tell each other everything but come May you'll want to keep something seriously big under wraps.

Money matters

Taureans are generally good at saving money, but a mistake in April

could leave you strapped for cash.

Snoggy stuff If 1996 was an emotional roller-coaster, 1997's gonna be a merry-go round. You'll have a lot of boy interest in January and February and come August, a close male friend may ask you out. Mars and Venus whizz through your sign at the end of October making you look and feel lush. If ' you've had your eye on a guy now's the time to ask him out!

Lad to love Watch out for some sizzling snog action with a Gapricorn lad on January 23, May 19 or October 31.

### **Ge***mini* **(22 May – 21 Jurie**)

Your year ahead

Thanks to Uranus (no sniggering), beredom won't stand a chance. The year'll be full of surprises in all aspects of your life – something you Gemini gals Jove.

Mate matters in February, rumours about you abound. You're pretty sure your best mate didn't start 'em, but why not make sure? Sit her down and ask her outright. If she goes beetroot you've found the culprit.

**Money matters** 

You're pretty useless with dosh. But if you don't pay back a debt in May you'll have lots of explaining to do!

Snoggy stuff What an interesting year you're gonna have in the snuggles department. First off, in January a lad may make you a saucy suggestion, but as you hardly know him it'd be best to steer clear. Venus, the love walrus of planets. enters your sign in May, and you may find that you and 'someone special finally become an item. Yahoo! July to September sees you in full flirt mode, and December sees the. year out on a high note.

Lad to love A holiday romance with a Sagittarian lad could leave you hot 'n' bothered.

Just Seventeen \* 27

Mate matters Steer clear of your best bod on July 20. Why? The Full Moon's in Capricom on that day, which could see you getting narked with her. It's not her fault, you're just blowing things out of proportion.

Money matters Cancerians like to be financially secure, so you'll be glad to hear that with Jupiter in Aquarius any investments should do very well. Snogny stuff Neptune, the naughty little planet of deception and illusion, may cause you to idealise a possible new lurve interest as '97 begins. Unless you want to get hurt, be very careful. The planets also suggest you may fall in love with someone at school in June – crikey! With Mars and Venus in your chart, September will be the most lovetastic month of the year. Any close encounters of the boy kind this month are likely to be highly charged but the chances of them developing into long-term relationships are slim – sorry!

Lad to love You see him, you smile at him. And although you have no intention of anything else happening, it does. Boy, March sure is going to be exciting!

### Leo (24 July – 23 Adgust)

Your year ahead Hold tight Miss
Lion 'cause 1997's gonna be a dead
stimulating year. You'll be breaking
out of old ruts and allowing yourself
to be more adventurous. By the end
of '97 you'll have a whole new
perspective on life – less judgemental
and far more open-minded – which
can only be a good thing.

Mate matters A friend may drop a bit of a bombshell in January – and you thought you knew her well! But she needs your support not your condemnation, so listen to what she has to say.

Money matters you have expensive tastes, so it's no wonder you're always strapped for cash! And with Pluto in Sagittarius in 1997 you'll need to be extra careful with your hard earned dosh.

Snoggy stuff When it comes to all things boy, nothing much'll gowring in '97 as long as you keep your lest on the ground. If you're hoping some seriously fruity moments, late June and early July'll be the Javoured time. Come September you may think you've met the boy of your dreams, but sadly the planets suggest it'll only be lust. Shame! There's a flirty feel to November – great if you're single, not if you're already involved stand with Venus and Mars in your opposite sign of Aquarius come December, you may well end 1997 with a new lad!

Lati to love Don't blush, but in June a boy you know may suggest he wants more than just friendship! What's more, he may turn out to be a better prespect than you first think.

### Libra (24 September – 23 October)

Your year, ahead This year you'll have some great times but will also have to take on dull, unavoidable responsibilities. The great times mainly revolve around your love life, the duties around your family. By the year's end your confidence will have increased tenfold and your sense of identity become much clearer.

Mate matters Sometimes you just have to cancel things at short notice and this'll happen in January. Don't, worry, your friends will understand.

Money matters Now Pluto's in Sagittarius, you should be able to get hold of some much needed lolly by putting your imaginative moneymaking schemes into practice.

Snoggy stuff Get your non-smudge lippy out - you'll need it this year.

From March 22 onwards you'll begin one of the most romantic times of your life! In June you may feel attracted to someone at school-great if you're single, but dangerous if either of you are already attached. August will be one of the most flirty months of the year, but the Full Moon in Aquarius on the 18th could see a date being cancelled. After a quiet auturn, December sees things hotting up again. But be careful not to over-idealise relationships at this time, or you may end up with a broken heart.

ly one particular lad this year who'll blow your mind completely. A friend will introduce you to him around March 23, so turn down evenings out at this time at your peril!

### **Scorpio** (24 October – 22 November)

Your year aheat It's very much a case of out with the old you and in with the new. Your values will change quite radically and you may even decide that a life-long embition is no longer so important. As '97 progresses your confidence increases, but bewere you don't get too tilg for your boots! All in all, it'll be a year you'll look back on with affection.

Mate matters Come on; you should be happy your friend's dating. He's not going to replace you as her best bud, so cool it!

Money matters With Jupiter coasting through the sign of Aquarius, there's a chance lots of lovely lolly will wing its way to you, very soon!

Snoggy stuff Success in loverelated matters will depend on your openness. If you hide your feelings or let misplaced pride get the better of you, you'll only have yourself to blame if things don't work out – so there! April, May and late Juhe are fab times for snogs. And the 3rd 8th, 10th and the 31st of October will be sizzlingly romantic days too. After the Full Moon on November 14 you're likely to meet someone special, but won't be interested in anything too heavy. Neither is he and as far as you're concerned that's cool.

Lati to Joye At a mate's party in April you'll spot him across a crowded room, your eyes will mist over and then... twang! Cupid hits you with his little love arrow. Sounds farfetched? Just you wait and see.

### Capricorn (23 December – 20 January)

Your year ahead Wow! You're in for a fantastic year. In '96 you made your priorities clear. And in '97 you'll start filling the spaces you made in your life. In doing so you'll discover loads of new and exciting friends, interests and, of course, lads!

Mate matters You really like your mate but at times she seems so childish, you wonder if you have anything in common any more. Well you do. She'll do a lot of growing up during '97 and come December you'll be the best of buds again.

Money matters Strange and undsual ways of making money could fatten your purse – especially in March.

**Snoggy stuff** Jahuary's definitely going to be your month, a time

you'll get your way in almost everything. That said, be wary about getting too involved in a new romance early in the new year as it'll be anything but straightforward. Meeting a lad around February 2 could blossom into something special, and the New Moon on July 4 will see a change for the better. In August you may have to emind someone that you don't like being pressurised. And with Venus and Mars in your sign during November and December your powers of attraction will rocket. Fantastic!

Lad to love A sensitive Pisces boy could get your heart a thumping this July, but you won't realise just how much you like him 'til he goes away. But he'll be back before you know it, having missed you like crazy too.

### Aquarius (21 January - 19 February)

Your year ahead By thunder, you're, In for celestial fireworks this year. Many surprises are in store, most of 'em good! If you feel that things are out of your control, just trust yourself and fate and everything will work out just dandy – promise.

Mate matters Near the end of '97' there's a chance you'll fall out with a friend big time. But the stars say you'll soon meet a new friend who's far more understanding.

Money matters You're in for a few money probs, but thanks to Neptune you should be able to sort them out.

Snoggy stuff Someone may try to persuade you to give up your independence near the start of the year, but as usual you'll hold onto it

for dear life. You'll be particularly flirtatious-during May and June, and have a string of potential boyfriends. Come July you'll be in the mood for some intimacy after realising that having your cake and eating it isn't all it's cracked up to be. During October you may be attracted to someone unavailable and unless you want to cause, a lot of heartache, leave well alone. November could see a bit of chemistry between you and someone at school, but once again he's not available. If you're already happily ensconced with a lad, December's the time to introduce him to your family – good luck!

Lad to love A smoochy time with a Libran guy is predicted around February 18. Hot snogs aboy! **Virgo** (24 August – 23 September)

Your year ahead Some people dread the start of a new year – but not you! You just can't wait to see what '97 has in store. Well, you'll spend much of the year maturing emotionally. Some lessons will be harder than others but as the year comes to a close you should find you've become more independent.

Mate matters We've all made promises in the past that for one reason or another we've been unable to keep. Come March, a friend may just have to back out of one she's made to you. Don't get angry with her – she feels bad enough as it is.

Money matters' If there's something you want but can't afford, try to hold out 'til August, 'cause by then your piggy bank will be a lot fatter!

Snogpy stuff True love probably didn't flow that smoothly in '96. The bad news is that the start of 1991 doesn't do much to change things. If you already have a lad in your life you may start to wonder if you should dump him or not. But don't make any hasty decisions, because by February you may feel completely different. During March you'll be a birovva flirt, and August

is the month to get out and get noticed. Watch your jealous streak during October, and come November your uncharacteristic flirting might ge you into a tricky situation – you have been warned.

Lati to love A guy you meet whose birthday falls on the 6th, 8th, 15th, 24th or 29th of the month fancies yo more than you think - ooh-er!

### **Sagittarius** (23 November – 22 December)

Your year ahead This year will be a time of growth and opportunity. You'll feel loads more confident as the year progresses and may even manage to let go of attitudes which have stopped you reaching your full potential in the past.

Mate matters A good friend may need a shoulder to cry on come February. Problem is, she needs you the night you've planned to meet up with a rather gorge lad. A bit of a bummer but she'll appreciate you being there for her.

Money matters Don't be tempted to blow all your savings – the planets suggest you save up for a rainy day.

Snoggy stuff Lumme! What with: Saturn whizzing through the fiery sign of Aries, there's a chance you may think about getting serious with someone this year. "What?" you cry. 'Never!' But there's a feeling of betrayal attached to August which could change your opinion of a close male friend. As the year ends, Sagittarians will experience serious temptation. You'll attract the attention of just about every male under the sun! But do control your urge to stray – unless you're single, of course, in which case enjoy!

Lad to love There's a chance you'll meet a Gemini lad on holiday, especially if you're soaking up the sun in August. It'll only be a short fling but at the time it'll be exactly what you want.

### **Pisces (20 February - 20 March**

Your year ahead Start limbering up cause 1997 will fly by at supersonic speed. You'll hardly have time to draw breath! Personal transformations will allow you to let go of elements from your past that no longer fit into your life, giving you the scope to move on and upwards:

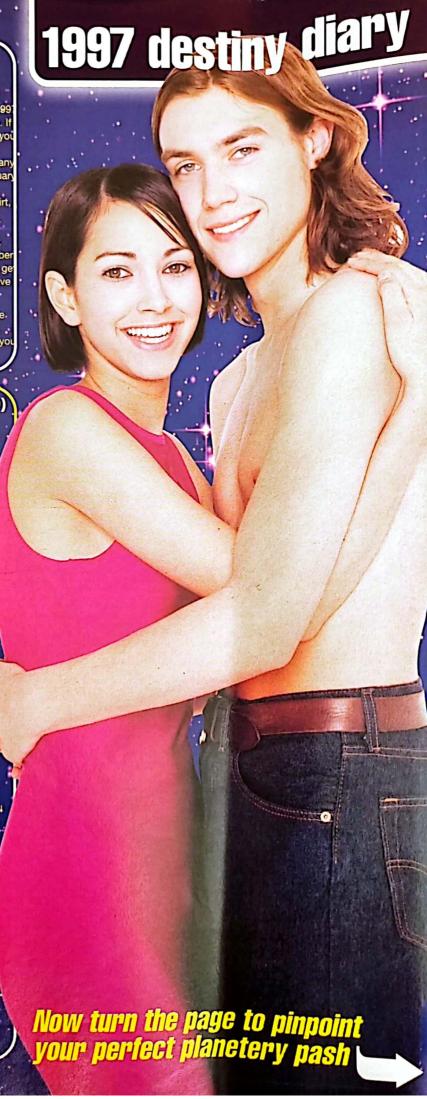
Mate matter's Don't get upset if a friend seems to have dumped you for a lad. She still values you, and once the heady rush of love begins to wane she'll remember just what a great friend you really are.

Money matters When it comes to spending dosh, listen to your intuition in '97 and you won't go far wrong.

Snoggy stuff With Venus in the fiery sign of Sagittarius until the

10th of January, you may feel tempted to get off with a friend's boy! You don't need reminding just how risky this could be. In April you may start to worry that you re getting a reputation because you spend so much time with lads, but people are only jealous. Something special may happen just after the Full Moon on 18th August. Normally your initial reaction would be to laugh it off, but this time take a deep breath before saying anything. A wrong reaction could leave you kicking yourself in the months to corne.

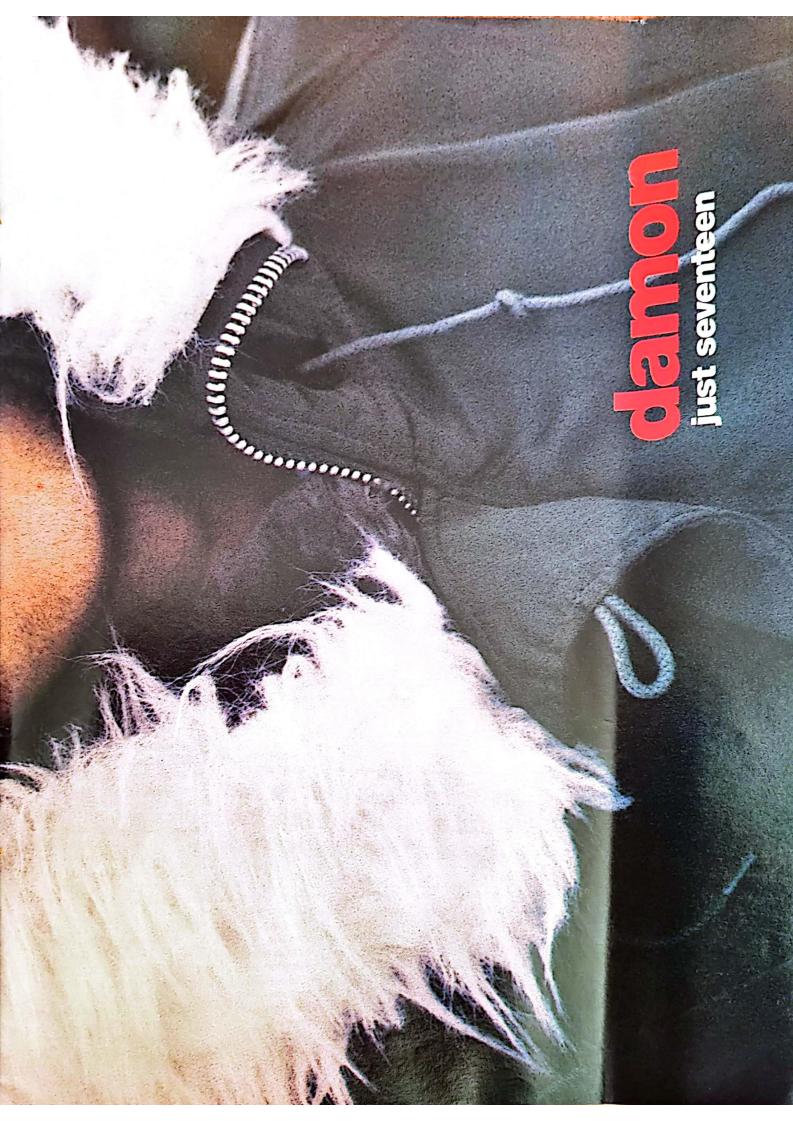
Lati to love Something exciting might happen this Valentine's Day. Wait and see exactly what it is but we can reveal that it probably involves a cute Scorpio fad...



### 1997 destiny diary

### Find out if you're star-crossed lovers with our complete astro-compatibility guide...

						1	astro-compatibility guide						
	and he's Aries	and he's Yaurus	and he's Gemini	and he's Cancer	and he's	and he's	and he's	and he's Scorpio	and he's Segitterius	and he's Capricom	and he's Aquarius	Pieces	
If you're Aries	A very fiery pairing, but you both agree the best-part of breaking up is making up.	You wanna party, he'd rather stay in with a cup of cocoa. But with patience, it could work.	Wowl Call the fire brigade – this one's hot! But watch his roving eye, he's prone to flirting!	Hmm, difficult. You both want to be in control, which could cause a few sparks to fly.	Passion and warmth here, although he hay be a little too bossy for you in the long run.	Uh oh! Bad news, this one. He's such a perfectionist he'll get right us your nose.	This one's weird, but it could work - as long as you keep your temper in check.	You want passion? Scorpio's yer man. But watch those insults fly whan, you argue.	Hooray! A fantastic comboNot just great jovers, you're great mates tool	You're bound to have a lot of fun together, but it might lack a little on the lust front.	He's mad. But that's why you like him. Just don't mention corphitment He'll'de df.	Forget it. This guy's far too sentimental and emotional for you. Steer well clear.	
If you're Taurus	Nice one, girl If you haven't asked him out yet, do it now. This sort of love could last forever.	it's a pretty passionate combo.	You'll never get bored with him, but he might be too flighty in the long run. Still, worth a try.	Good news. This is a well-made pairing, cause you're both very lovey- dovey. Aww.	This could be groovy - if you're both prepared to discuss any problems calmly.	Oh, yes! You're both Earth signs so there'll be tons to talk about on a first date.	His flirting will drive you crazy. So unless-you want major angst, leave well alone.	You're total opposites. But opposites do attract, so this one could run and run.	Not ideal, but it could work out. Problem is, he may be far too free com- loving ag you.	You'll be fantastic mates, but a distinct tack of passion may do for if eventually.	A good match as long as you con't get too clingy. Aquatans need their space.	He'll have a calming influence on you, but you may feel 'things don't sizzle enough;	
If you're Gemini	A relationship that's certainly snogful, but he might get narked by your firting – so watch it.	Difficult one. But it might just work if you both agree to take things slowly.	You're so similar you could almost be twins! And, er, you are, starswise of course.	He thinks you're too much of a wild-child – but stranger things have happened.	An interesting corribo, this, You'll get on very well but you might find him a bit restrictive.	Don't even think about it. You're scatty, He's a perfectionist. Fur would fly before long.	You're both mad fer flirting, so you'll get on like a house on fire. But long-term? Not likely.	Tons of hugs and kisses. However, his leallousy may really work your serves after a while:	Crikey! You're so'right for each other, you'll probably be drawing your pension together.	There's more chance of the Pope joining Eternal than this one lasting, so forget it.	What a dot 'n' steamy match. Mirting around could spell disaster, but it il be good while if lasts.	An easy-going relationship, but you might get bored and head for more passionate offnes.	
E parte Canada	Could be very passionate, but don't get all hoity-toity when he tries to take control.	You'll have loadsa fun together, but he might think you're a little too intense for him.	This'll start passionately, but you like lads a bit deeper than the average Gemint	A very cosy combo: Just be careful things don't get a wee bit boring.	This could be a scorcher, but he'll always want to be the one in charge. Can you handle that?	You both like to feel secure in a relationship, so this one could run and run and run and	Could be rather saucy, but the Libran need to flirt might get right up yer nose.	Yes siree! A match made in heaven if there ever was one. Introduce him to your folks at ence.	It desnae work, captain. Ye need a wee laddig who can der stability, and he cannae.	You have tons of differences. But if you're both willing to work through 'em, this could just do it.	Oil Cancer No! This bloke's independent. Always has been, and will be for a long time to come.	You're hoth water signs, so you'll have an absolutely splashing time together.	
If you're	Goaf What a fantastic * combo. The only prob could be Mr Aries *pride - it's easily hurt.	You both wanna be king of the castle. So you'll have to compromise to make it work out.	Not bad, but, your need for tons of reassurance and attention could make him scream.	He has to be the boss." If you can handle that you're in for passion and happiness.	Oedles of passion, but you're both tres bossy, so expect arguments aplenty.	Not a bad combination, but not your best if you can handle his fussy ways, you'll be OK.	A weird match, but you both love socialising and arty stuff so you'll have tons in common.	Electric attraction, but it could burn itself out = especially if his jealousy gets out of control.	The passion in the scorching at first But you're both so competitive it could spell trouble.	An unusual match. But the good thing is, Mr Capricorn will keep your feet on the ground.	He's darn sexy but you're astrological opposites, so differences may drive you apart.	A birrova tester. You're so forthright and direct you may soure-him, but it could work.	The second secon
If you're Virgo	He's so crazy it scares you and his don't-care-attitude makes you wanna scream. No go!	Yes! What a match, You both know instinctively what the other wants - perfection!	You're into philosophy, politics and the meaning of life. He doesn't give a fig. Nuff said.	This is a good un. You're both home bods and adore loving secure relationships.	Not obviously ideal, but this just might be blissful. So if he asks you out why not say yes	You're sooto similar. But watch out for the passion waning - slippers by the fire etc. Zzzzzi	like things to be just so. His	Big-time romance. You're perfectly in turns with each other, You lucky things!	There's no way, round this seaking this peaking this pairing spells nothing but disaster. Sony.	As fellow earth signs you have codles in common. This could be the romance of the year Aaah!	He'll push all your passion buttons, and if you respect his freedom this could work.	Not a bad match. But watch your tendency to nag – Mr Pisces will take it to heart.	
If you're Libra	Could be a bit of a laugh, as long as you're both honest with each other.	It'll need a lot of work, cause Mr Taurus, is such a stubborn eld soul.	You're both air signs, so you should understand each other perfectly. Give it a whirl!	He needs to feel secure and loved. Get that sorted and you're on to a dead cert.	You both love grooving to the latest pop sensation, so this one's a bit of a goer. Think lively!	You two love the finer things in life and hate arguments – an ideal match!	Fahtastic – as long as you sit down and talk probs through rather than bottling 'em up.	Not a bad combo. But if you don't want tantrums, don't flirt with another lad in front-of him.	Phew, steady on! This combo's so spicy it's bound to last. Shogs galore.	There's intense magnetism, but there'd have to be compromises galore for this one to work.	A dream match if ever these was one. He's the kinda guy you could introduce to your gran!	This could be OK - if you can handle lithe odd emotional outburst from Mr Pisces.	
	Plenty of sizzling snogs. But phew! When you two row, watch them sparks fly.	You're total opposites. It won't be plain salling, but opposites do attract, you know	Tons of hugs and kisses here, but your jealous streak might miff him right off.	Yippeel A dream match if ever there, was one. You understand each other perfectly.	Sizzling chemistry here. But keep your jealousy in check, or tungs could fizzle out.	You both	Not a pad combo but his flirtatious nature may make you see red – tread very carefully.	A most excellent pairing. You two know other's needs almost instinctively.	He's too laid- back for you. There's more chance of Kate Moss waking up ugly than of this Jasting.	Nice one! He's just what you look for in allad. But is there sorfie passion missing?	The flames of passion will burn bright, but if you want	What a combol As fellow water signs you're perfectly matched. Hooray!	
If you're Segittarius	Hooray! An ace combo. You're not just great lovers but best-buds too. Take him home now!	Not the best of matches. You may be too freedom- loving for him. But with effort it could be OK	Book the church! Phone the Vicad No, only joshing. But you two could last for ages and ages.	Forget it! He needs a woman who can offer him stability and that's not you, is it?	You'll fancy each other madly, but you're both too competitive for this to be long-tehm.	Sorry, but if you two get- together it's gonna last as long as an igloo in Barbados.	What a combination! You're so fruity together it's bound to last good one!	A big no no, because Mr Scorpio's intensity just isn't your cup of tea at all.	As strange as it may, seem, you're far too similar for this one to last long. Ah, well.	bound to break his heart - he's far too	turn that sort	You'll have your week cut out if you want it to last – but if you're determined, it might.	100
If you're Capricorn	great mates, but you may want more romance than	Sure, you get on really well as friends. But as for romance it isn't meant to happen. Sorry!	nothing in common! Not a match	This one might just make it, but you both have a lot of hard work shead of you.	An incredibly odd match, but it has been known to work quite Well. Good lück!	You were born to date each other. Fellow- earth signs, you have acres of common ground.	There's loads of attraction but much else. If you put in the work, though, it might just last.	'You're both stuff 'n' nonsense sensible chappies, so it's bound to last a lifetime!	Hmm. Tricky one. You'll have to be prepared to compromise tons for it to work out.	This one'll jast but you're both a bit too serious. So go on, have a birrova laugh together!	As long as you can handle his need for loadsa passion and snogging, you'll be OK.	They've put the man on the moon, so anything's possible – even you two getting it on!	The same of the sa
If you'! Aquari	Woweel What a pair. Mr Aries' sense of adventure will keep you interested	A fantastic combination, as long as you make	He'll flirt like crazy with o other wome but if you can handle that it could	This ain't gonna work. Mr Cancer is far too cosy for your	You find each other dead sexy and though you're astrological opposites, this one could last.	You're really quite different, but have just about enough in common for it to work out.	You two were made for	As long as he's a caring Scorpio (many of em are) this one should make it to the wire.	What a hot diggety dang match. Just don't forget to come up for air every 'so often.	An unusual combo. But make the effort to be	You know each other's likes and dislikes – perfect for a long-lasting, relationship!	He's highly sensitive and emotional, this lad. But you can handle that, can't you?	-
	He could be a little to pushy for your liking - so prepare	Nice one, girll He'll make you feel the most loved woman on the planet.	This boy's Mr Laid Back so this	Two water signs equal pure bliss Ask him aut before	He loves being the centre of attention. If that's cool by you, this one	He s dead cute. But you might heed to put some extra effort in to make this last	You may fancy the pants off him, but the truth is he's	You're on exactly the same wavelength, you watery pair - what	Um, difficult. Initially he's very attractive, but in the end you might find him	Not a bad mixture. He'll provide solid support for your more fanciful	He's a wild 'n' wacky individual, but he has	You two can never make your minds up. But if you decide to see each other,	



### **Backstreet Boys**

### The crime in question WHY ARE LADS PHONE-PHOBIC

The scenario You cop off and he says he'll phone you - whatta schweedie. But that call never comes. Grm!

The love gospel according to Kevin

"Sometimes a guy will say he'll call and then go off and do something with his buddies and forget all about it! It's a big dilemma. Guys like and need girls, but they need their buddies too and it's easy to get distracted by your

mates. Sure, it's insulting, but she should realise he's just being a guy! I've been guilty of doing it myself. I get home fully intending to call, then I fall asleep! The only excuse for playing phone-tag with a girl is if she's playing games with you. Making her wait for that call - letting her sweat a bit usually evens things out!" J17 says Sorry, Kev, but sometimes 'forgetting all about it' ain't gonna cut the love mustard. No-one expects you to be hanging on the telephone, but returning a call, heck, it's common courtesy. You'd better shape up, boyo!

The crime in question

### WHY DO LADS SKIMP

The scenario He's fluent in body language, but monosyllabic in the verbal department. What he's really thinking or feeling is a mystery. The love gospel according to Brian

"In the initial stages of a relationship, guys might withdraw a little 'cause they don't want to lay too much emotion on the line. We want to be cool about it, OK? Now, if I'm into a girl, I want to tell her how I really feel, but what happens if she doesn't feel the same way? That's the ultimate guy nightmare! In the beginning I'm shy, but I don't

like to leave it long before telling a

girl how I feel - I don't play games. What's the point of dating someone you're not comfortable with?"

J17 says Aww, get this, a sensitive flower! Full marks for championing honesty Bri, but do you really practise what you preach?

The crime in question

### WHY DON'T LADS TELL YOU WHAT THEY REALLY

The scenario They tell you they love you, they say they care, but it's usually a short cut to getting what they want, what they really really want. Why all the charades?

The love gospel according to Howie

"I guess some guys will try to flatter a girl as a last resort when they're tried everything else to get a slice of the saucy stuff! I'm no authority on this. I've never had to try that hard! I reckon the best way to spot whether a guy's feeding you a line is if he starts to stutter or fails to hold your gaze then you know there's something up! I'm no smooth talker, I just talk off the top of my head or say what's in my heart! Girls don't play games with me 'cause I'm not a shady character. When I get into a relationship I'm so honest that a girl could never live with herself if she did the dirty on me!" J17 says What a virtuous boy you are, Howie. And full marks for believing what old folk tell you that honesty breeds honesty.

Quit playing games with my heart! So goes the new Backstreet Boys single. But what of the dirty tricks lads play on chicks? The funksome five lay it on us...

The crime in question

### WHY DO LADS USE OTHER CHICKS TO MAKE

The scenario He gives you that cheeky smile that should be exclusively yours... then gives the same look to someone else. The love gospel according to Nick "If a guy is with a girl but they're not in a proper relationship, I can see why he might flirt with other chicks to make her more into him. I've never tried to make a girlfriend jealous, but then I've never had a lasting relationship. I guess if a guy's being an outrageous flirt, his girl should give him a dose of his own medicine. Actually, I think girls are a lot better at playing games than guys. Sometimes girls touch your

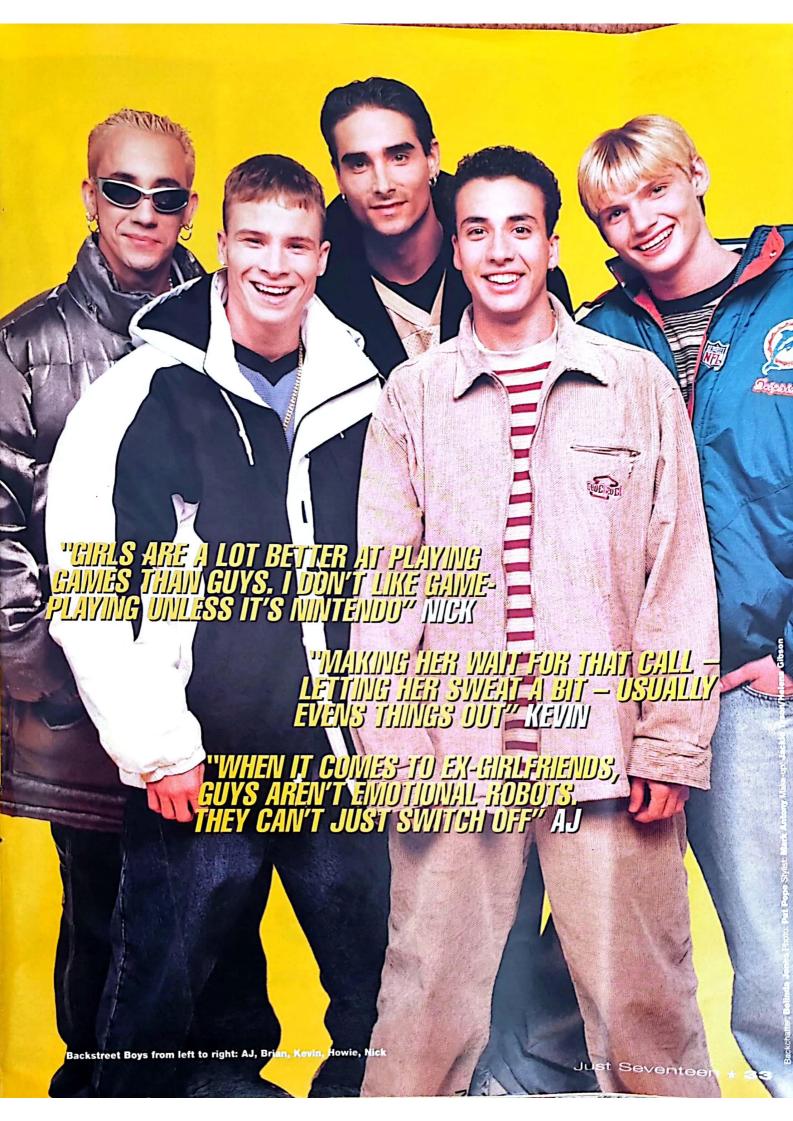
hand or shoulder as they talk and you think, 'Yeah, she likes me!' And then you see her doing it to another guy - I've had that happen to me! I don't like gameplaying unless it's Nintendo." J17 says Uh-oh, mixed messages a-hoy! You don't like games, Nick, but can see why a lad might wanna make his girlfriend jealous? Good on the girl who gave you a taste of your own medicine, say we!

The crime in question

### WHY DO BOYS KNEFT THE FEET OF THEIR

The scenario Watching Family Fortunes is better than listening to him goin' on about how great his ex is. Is he trying to make you feel insecure or what? The love gospel according to AJ

"If a guy persists in talking about an ex, it's 'cause there's unfinished biz. That's not to say he doesn't want to be with you, it's just that guys aren't emotional robots. They can't just switch off. If I was advising a female friend, I'd tell her to confront him - he might just need to sort his head out. He'll either stay with you or go back to her, you can't change that. So as the song says, 'If you love somebody set them free'. J17 says is that the same as, 'If you love somebody, let them walk all over you?', AJ? OK, so nobody likes a cling-on but sometimes you just have to fight for your rights.













Name Alexander McQueen Profile British Designer of the Year 1996. Young and rebellious. Claim to fame Earned the title 'Bad Boy of Fashion' thanks to his outrageous and quite often offensive designs. Celeb fans Björk, Iman, David Bowie and Kylie. High-street looky-likey Black jacket with blue pinstripe £40 by Chatters \* Black lace-print basque £29 from La Senza \* Indigo jeans £35 by Chatters.

Name Hussein Chalayan Profile Turkish Cypriot, aged 26, who studied fashion in London. Claim to fame Burying dresses

in soil and iron fillings to achieve a rusty, decayed look. Renowned for using odd materials like paper and weird route maps.

Celeb fans Björk, PJ Harvey and Kate Winslet.

High-street looky-likey Red and yellow top £39 by Trigger Happy.



Profile Born in Austria, also designs menswear and recently

launched an underwear range. Claim to fame Bringing the military look into fashion. Also known for his androgynous and trend-setting new looks. Celeb fans Stella Tennant, Mick Jagger, Willem Dafoe. High-street looky-likey Brown asymmetrical top £18 by

Japonica James \* Grey trousers £25 by Levi's.





Profile Husband and wife design team from Brazil

Claim to fame Their striped knitwear and unusual fabrics, patterns and colours for daywear have caused a stir. Celeb fans Zoë Ball and Helena Christensen. High-street looky-likey Lime green shirt £37.99 by Body Best \* Long blue halterneck dress £57.50



Goldilocks

Designers also influence hairstyles - check out this look from Chanel. Section hair from ear to ear and tie the

back one into a ponytail. Drag front section into a high ponytail and loop half through a hairband. Crimp or backcomb the loose ends Clip front knot. We used gold mini clips £7.50 per pair by Johnny Loves Rosie.

**Eyes right** 

Most make-up trends begin on the catwalk but are too scary for the sidewalk. We adapted this look from Alexander McQueen's show, applying Bourjois 'Argent no. 29' pearl eyeshadow £3.95 under the eye, with Screen Face iridescent silver powder £5 at the inner and outer corners of the eye,

blending

looks from the catwalk to the high street...



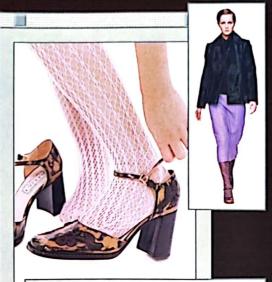




## Name Anna Sul (pronounced Swee) Profile American with a liking for liberal designs (she's not afraid to vary her style) and a talent for mixing fabrics and patterns. Claim to fame One of the inventors of grunge. Celeb fans Cher Courtney Love and Naomi. High-street looky-likey Leather jacket £99 from Sisley \* Top £29.99 from Jane Norman \* Trousers

### Speak the lingo

- \* Season Refers to either an autumn/winter or spring/summer collection. Can be used to powerful effect, as in, 'That skirt is sooo last season!"
- \* Haute couture Collection of one-off designs which are usually more extravagant and outrageous than the ready-to-wear collections. Designers let their hair down and go a bit bonkers, creating outfits that can sell for squillions.



### Catwalk info

\* Designers tend to lose their first name and instead add 'sweetie' or 'dahhling' to the end. Use it whenever the mood takes you, like, 'How very Gucci dahhling' or That dress is screaming Chanel, sweetie. Collections are shown twice a year in either London, New York, Paris or Milan. Spring/summer ranges appear on catwalks in October, autumn/winter ranges in February. It's the time when high-street stores copy new trends and turn them into affordable threads. \* Designer fashion is becoming increasingly affordable. Joseph has

a range in La Redoute catalogue, Katharine Hamnett has a range in Littlewoods catalogue and Clements

Ribeiro has designed a capsule (ie. titchy) collection for Dorothy Perkins.

### Name Prada

Profile Italian-born Miuccia Prada. Also designs a diffusion range (less snoot, but still dead pricey) called Miu Miu. Claim to fame Her trademark nylon bags, which no selfrespecting fashion editor would be seen without, plus her wallpaper-print dresses and crocheted tights. Celeb fans Nicole Kidman, Madonna and Kate Moss High-street looky-likey Brown vintage leather sandals £54.99 from Office \* Lilac crochet tights £3.99 by Jonathan Aston.



Niall McInerney Hair and make-

ᄗ

Name DKNY (stands for Donna Karan New York) Profile She's an American earth mother, celebrity, wife and business woman. Wow! Also designs ranges for blokes, normal-shaped gals and kiddies. Claim to fame Her sporty, easy-living style Celeb fans Demi Moore and Bruce Willis are major fans (they advertise the stuff) Linda Evangelista and Keanu. High-street looky-likey Yellow PVC jacket £75 by Trigger Happy ★ Black ribbed roll-neck £9.99 from Apple Tree.



£34.99 from Apple Tree.

### Name Tommy Hilfiger

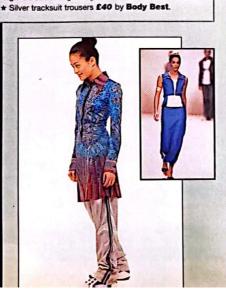
Profile American-born designer. Originally menswear only but he's brought out a women's range for spring/ summer '97.

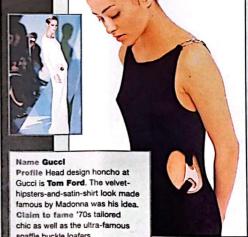
Claim to fame His red, white and blue streetwear, which will appear in loads of high-street copies next year. Also famous for his fragrance, Tommy. Watch out for Tommy Girl in the shops next year. Celeb fans Kate Moss and Snoop Doggy Dog.

High-street looky-likey V-neck T-shirt style no: BE 67 00 £25 from Choice.

### Name Red Or Dead

Profile It all began on a humble market stall in London, run by designer Wayne Hemingway. Claim to fame Distinctive street look. Their mix of Indian styling and sportswear will be big next season. Celeb fans Belinda Carlisle, Katie Puckrick and Jarvis. High-street looky-likey Shirt dress £40 from Home





snaffle buckle loafers. Celeb fans Patsy and Liam, Ms

Paltrow. Goldie Hawn and Jarvis. High-street looky-likey Long black dress with cut-away detail £69.99 by Lipsy.

Just Seventeen ★ 39

Best buys, top ideas by the fash crew

we know

what's most

readers and a couple of mates a

0891 408835 and leave important to us your details, and you could you: fashion be scoffing a burger and (of course), boys

chips with Naomi and the girls before (See page 53

you can say 'catwalk'! for comp rules.)

slap-up dinner for free! Just call



s we near the millennium, why not nab yourself a pair of techno trainers to help you leap into the year 2000? These excellent specimens by Puma (from

> £59.99) are taken from the new Puma Cell range. which'll be beaming down to a sports shop near you soon.

Covering our coat collars in take fur

Dazzling

Spending our Crimbo money on new undies

Ski jumpers from Gap

Boys looking ultra-gorge in snowboarding gear

Looking like Kylie - is there no end to this girl's cool?

**Buying anything** that says 'dry clean only

Losing one of our new woolly mitts Laddering sparkly party tights Novelty slippers - enough already

No more Ab Fab on the box. Sob!



(why, most definitely) and...

food! So we've teamed up with

The Fashion Cafe in London's

Leicester Square to give two lucky



with microscopic faces and a cutesy tick. Yep, J17 reckons time pieces should be tough yet feminine! For the perfect wrist accessory, check out the Baby-G watch £50 by G-Shock

Available in a variety of and styles. little cope with from Mel C





Cool cats can look hot this winter in fake-fur and bouclé. Jeffrey Rogers has a top selection, ranging from this poodle-trim jacket to Dalmatian bags (eat yer heart out Cruella De Vil!). And if you're looking for a way of sending a message to someone special, look no further than these nifty postcard T-shirts for only £9.99.

FASHION CAFE





### Where it's at:

Antoni & Alison 0171 275 7033 Apple
Tree 62 Neal Street

Benetton 0171-731 4564 Body Best 0171-323 0302 Born Free 0171-

837 4757 - Burton 01784 423693 - C&A 0171-629 1244 Chatters

Choice 0500 923923 Converse 01372

Dockland 0171 267 7021 **Dylon** 0181-663 4296

DEtam 0171-

Firetrap 0181

G-Shock 0800 387 146 Home 39 Beak Street, London W1, 0171-287 3708 **Hysteric Glamour** 

Jane Norman 0171-437 0132 **Japonica James** 0171-916 2669 **Jeffrey Rogers** Jonathan Aston

**Johnny Loves Rosie** 

Kangol 0171-487 4888 -: Kookai 123 Street, London W8,

catalogue 05 La Redoute

777777 La Senza 0181-445 0099 Levis Littlewoods

catalogue 0345 2 Lipsy 0171-

Mikey 0171-287 1232 Miss Moneypenny

Office Shoes 57 Neal Street, London WC2, 0181-838 4447

Pepe 0171-836 666 Puma

Sistey 0171-731 4564 Stirling Cooper 0181-961 1800 Trigger Happy 0181-830 4442

· indicates mail order

Hot tip: got a fashion prob? Write to 'Fashion most wanted', J17, 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED

## J17/Labello competition Jesser Un ISSIMM: snoglastic holiday to Kissimmee, Florida?

You could be leaving dreary ole Blighty behind, as you jet off for two scorching weeks in Florida, the fun capital of the USA...



Studios, Wet 'n' Wild, Universal Studios and Sea World, fun is guaranteed to be on the agenda.

### Take care

Because lips are so sensitive they need plenty of pampering and attention.

level, improving the structure of the skin. They even come in easy sticks which are the perfect size to pop into your pocket. Use Labello every day and your snog partner will

notice the delicious difference in no time.



Orlando courtesy of award winning airline Virgin Atlantic, then pick-up their own car and begin a funpacked holiday. You'll stay at the Catialina Inn, an

ideal base from which to see all the exciting attractions, with a free transport service to most of them. And after a hard day's fun you can jump into the pool to cool off. A hard job but someone's gotta do it!

### Everyone's a winner

To runner ups each receive a bootiful £10 Boots voucher.

100 other runner ups sticks from the Labello range, comprising the

following **Yummy** 

Labello Classic **Brimming** with Vitamin E

and B5, and formulated for everyday use, this will leave your lips baby soft. Labello Med Contains Allantoin

and Panthenol for maximum intensive care and protection Labello



Rose Laden with rose oil and with a pink tint, this'll put your lips in perfect shape for puckering up.

Labello UV Brill for holidays, as it has a SPF of 18, is waterproof and contains Vitamin E.

If you're not lucky enough to be one of our winners, Labello's products are available at most Boots stores.



### are amazing things, are amazing unings, dontcha think? Full of tingling nerve endings that explode when you snog a lush lad...mmm! That's why you should make your lips your top priority. No-one wants to kiss a pair of dry, cracked lips, do they?

So thanks to Labello and Boots, we're giving one lucky reader the chance to win a week's holiday for them and their family\* to Kissimmee, Orlando! And as Florida is home to Walt Disney's Magic Kingdom with Tomorrow Land and Epcot, Disney MGM

Particularly in this chillsome weather, when lips can become dry and chapped all too easily - yeuch!

### aved

This is where Labello comes to a girl's rescue. Labello's ace range of advanced lipcare products provide daily care and protection to keep your lips looking and feeling great. The special ingredients help your lips to maintain their moisture



### How to enter

How clued up are you on the luscious lips of pop? Think you know the difference between Keanu's perfect pout and Ronan Keating's kissing equipment? Take a peep at these pics and see if you can match the lips to their owner. Get all four correct, and you and your family\* could find yourselves in Kissimmee, Florida having the time of your lives.

Once you've decided whose lips are whose, write the number next to the star's name in the space below. Send your entry to: J17/Labello holiday comp, 20 Orange Street, London, WC2H 7ED, before 15 January.





















Telephone number:

Parent or guardian's approval signature

Rules and regulations \* The winner must be accompanied by an adult. Entries must be accompanied by the competition entry coupon and only signed entries by a by parent/guardian will be valid for the competition. Please note, only one entry per person. Winners will be picked at random once the competition deadline (15 January 1997) has passed. There are no cash alternatives and the holiday must be taken (subject to availability) after 1 January 1997 and must return before 20 December 1997. The holiday includes airline travel, accommodation car hire and basic car insurance. Spending money not included. No responsibility will be taken for lost, delayed or damaged entries.



## Wanna be a little angel in '97? Earn your wings by sticking to these five golden rules...

Now be honest, do you opt for the same make-up and hairdo every time ne most nmon beauty crimes around: being stuck in a style rut. Here's how to break free: ★ Get a friend ose taste you trust to do your make-up. or go for a free in store makeover.
The Body Shop

is happy to give free Colourings makeovers and there's no pressure to buy (but there may be a waiting list if staff are busy). A stranger will see your face far more objectively. They may even come up with new colours or styles to suit you that you might never have thought of. \* Are you wearing too much make-up? Take a good look at your face when you're not wearing any at all and decide where you really need to wear it. Don't use full foundation if you can get away with concealer on a few spots and under-eye shadows.

LHE

2 Get it off
If you want skin that's enviably clear and glowing, get that gunk off before you go to bed!

★ Leaving slap on overnight clogs pores, causing spots. It can also irritate your eyes causing puffines and red-eye,

and make your pillow look

like the sco ★ Cleansin needn't take

long. If you wear lots of eye makeup, you need to remove

that first with a special up remover. If only wear mascara, you can take the whole lot off with a wash-off cleanser.

★ J17 likes Simple Gentle Eye Make-Up Remover £2.75, suitable for the most sensitive eyes, and Boots Natural Collection Cucumber Eye Make-Up Remover Gel £1.90

\* Wash-off cleansers are fab for one-stop beauty. J17 rates Revion Absolutes Clarifying Cleansing Cream £8.95 and The Body Shop Pineapple Facial Wash £3.90.

\* If you're caught out round a friend's house, a dollop of any unperfumed moisturiser or body lotion on cotton wool or a flannel will do the trick. So no slacking!

### to dif

Make '97 the year you stand out from the crowd. Here's a beginner's guide to making a lasting impact: \* Natural make-up doesn't have to mean boring browns. Pinks, from bubblegum-pale to deepest olum, are soft and flattering on nost skin tones. And pink is hot news on the spring

catwalks dontcha know. you're nervous out colours.

nail varnish. Hot for this season is 'Acid' from **Spectacular**, a bargain at **£1.45** (call 0181-903 2030 for stockists). Once you're used to dramatic nails, you'll find the confidence to use more colour on your face.

★ Exhibitionists will love the Make Up For Ever range at Dickins & Jones, which includes huge gold false eyelashes for £10. Call 0171-734 7070 for mail order details.

Nothing lasts forever, not even your favourite make-up. Here's what's got to go and what

still has the will to live:

★ Change your mascara at least every four months (more often if you get an eye otherwise you'll keep confecting yourself). Rescue old eyeliners by sharpening with a pencil rpener, but make sure it's clean. oundations should be chucked ey start to separate or change ır (keep them out of direct sunlight to prolong their life).

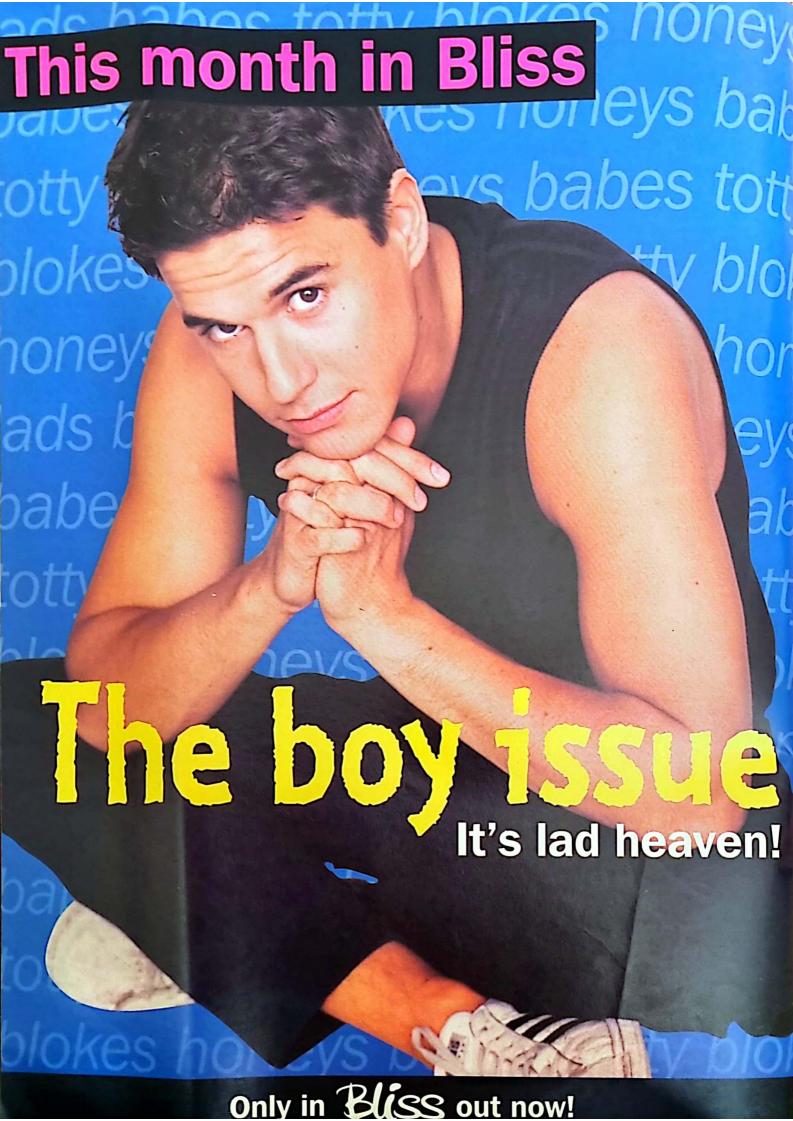
★ If nail polish starts parate, you may be able to rescue it by adding a

nail polish remover to the nd shaking well. The texture er regain its former glory, 's no harm in trying.

## **5 Get moving**What's free, fun and good for

your state of mind, body, skin, heart and immune system? Exercise. Even if it's something mall - like walking home from school rather than taking attitude about PE, cut it out this minute! You'll be doing yourself a huge favour.

the bus (OK, maybe not when it's raining). And there's no better time to start. So if you've got





### Out with the old

666

Vere Year's honours

CET

Cruella de Vil shades

Kiss purple and chocolate goodbye

Slicked-back hair Dramatic pale cheeks Sparkly hair gel

> Red eyeshadow Who wore it, anyway?

Serious hair accessories

Farewell gold and tortoiseshell

### In with the new

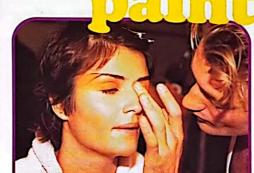
Girly colours
Pink, sky blue and buttery yellov

Cute curls Loads of blusher Sparkly cyeshadow

Red lipstick
Glamour's back (again!)

Romantic hair accessories

Silk roses and butterflies



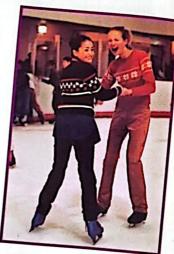
ouchy-feely make-up is big news for spring. Top make-up artist Daniel Sandler tells J17 that brushes are being left out in the cold. Backstage at the latest catwalk shows blusher, foundation,

eyeshadow and even lipstick are applied with fingers. Daniel loves using his fingers because it gives a "pretty, sheer finish". We love it because it saves time and money. All in all, fingers get the thumbs up.

## **Exercise freak**

Helena; handy t

anna appear in J17's beauty pages? We want to hear how you and your mates keep fit, whether it's playing footie, rollerblading, belly dancing or whatever. Drop us a note describing what you get up to and send it to Exercise freak, c/o Jessie, J17, 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED. Please include your phone number.



## Beauty 18A

Recently my skin's become really dry. My hands are even starting to crack. I'm not using any new prods - what's happened? Georgina (14), Scotland

Most likely, winter's to blame. Cold and wind chap your skin, and central heating dries it out. Bowls of water next to radiators are good for putting moisture back into the air so your house isn't such a drying environment. Dry hands may be may due to handling paper a lot (too much school and homework, p'raps?) so keep some handcream in your school bag and use it regularly.

# Grease is the word Why does my hair get oily even though I always use lots of shampoo? Claire (14), Birmingham

Easy on the shampoo! Using more than a ten-pence-sized dollop won't get your hair any cleaner, and it might actually make your bonce more greasy. If you use too much shampoo, you may not work it all up into a lather, and it'll stick to your hair when you rinse. This means your hair won't get fully clean, and the residue will attract dirt, making your locks feel oily and dull.

● Don't fret in silence – send your beauty problems to Jessie c/o Beauty Most Wanted, J17, 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED, and she'll solve 'em for you.

# Our favourite's OUOUTILE

et Niki Taylor's favourite mascara on the cheap! For the next two months, **Cover Girl** Professional Mascara is being reduced by £1, so for just £3.29 you can get your hands on the winning formula and curved brush that have made Professional Mascara a supermodel favourite.



Hot tip: make nail polish last longer by regularly adding a layer of top coat

Write to: Anita Naik, Nick Fisher or Annabel G, Advice, Just 17, 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED. It would be helpful if you could include your age and the area you live in. Unfortunately Just 17's Advice columnists cannot answer your problems on the telephone. If you have an urgent problem, please contact ChildLine free on 0800 1111 - we work very closely with them - or Careline on 0181-514 1177 (calls to Careline will be charged at the local rate and will appear on your phone bill).

# lad **says**

been seeing my boyfriend for two years and, while I love him, we have some problems. For a start, I'm attracted to a male friend of mine who's lovely to me, but this makes me feel guilty. Also, my boyfriend picks on me about my weight. I'm not that overweight, but he's always telling me to diet and when I don't he calls me a fat cow. He also flirts with other girls. When I tell him to stop, he blames me for not going on a diet. Sometimes I'm desperate to get away from him, other times I can't live without him. Anon (15)



 Never mind having strong feelings for someone else, your boyfriend's disgusting behaviour alone is a good enough reason to stop seeing him. Anyone who calls his girlfriend a fat cow and then flirts with other girls doesn't deserve to be going out with anyone! Believe me, you could do a million times better than this cretin. Break off with him and I'll guarantee your self-esteem will improve in leaps and bounds. Plus, you won't feel guilty about fancying someone who treats you with love and respect.

honestly. Having another person present might help to take an edge

> off the hurt and anger. If you'd like to talk to someone in confidence, contact Youth Access on 0181-772 9900 for details of your nearest youth counselling centre.

**mate's** lad's lovely

I'm 14 and have the biggest crush on my best friend's boyfriend. I've never felt this way before, probably because I've never had a boyfriend. When my mate started

dating him, I couldn't see what she saw in him. Then as I've got to know him, I've realised how wonderful he is. I feel terrible because I know he isn't interested in me. Even if he was, I'd never ruin things for my friend. It's a disaster. Oasis fan, London

You have strong feelings for this boy because he's the first lad you've got to know really well. As your best mate's boyfriend, you've seen a new side to him. But this doesn't mean you're in love with him. It's

more of a sign that you want to date a guy like him. Rather than

## 've lost I'm 16 and have been totall

someone as wonderful as this lad

view this situation as a disaster,

know you can't judge a person

on first impressions and you're

going to be more open to boys.

This means, sooner or later.

you're going to end up with

look at it positively. You now

in love with this boy for three years. We were best friends before we started seeing each other, so I thought things were really solid. But then he told me he didn't love me any more, and asked another girl out. Now they're really happy. Ever since this happened, I haven't been able to stop crying. I've lost my best friend and boyfriend in one go, and I don't know what to do. Last week I wrote him a letter saying if I couldn't be his girlfriend, I still wanted to be his best friend, but he said no. He reckons it would be too difficult. I feel so lost. Orbital fan

 In a way, your ex-boyfriend is right. Being his best friend would mean being objective about his new relationship, and there's no way you could do this right now. In fact, it would be downright masochistic to try and be supportive of his new-found happiness when you're still so unhappy.

The best way to get over him is to put some space between you, to enable you to grieve. Talk to someone you trust and have a good cry. Once you've done this things will be clearer and you can take an honest look at whether being friends would ever really work.

## Mum ates me

Ever since my dad ran off two years ago, my mum and I have fought all the time. Everything I do annoys her and everything she does makes me mad. The other night we had a terrible fight. I said I understood why Dad left and she said she hated me. I cried all night because I know it's true. We used to get on so well. What's happened? Liz (16), London

Stress, anger and frustration often lead people to say things they don't mean. Your mum was upset and you hit the right button to make her snap. Now you're discovering that words said in anger strike deep. In fact, I'll bet your mum is just as upset as you are, and feels as if you hate her too. That's why you both need to sit down and talk things over, calmly and

Be sure, be safe and remember sex under 16 is illegal





Anita Naik

## My sex lies

I've told my friends I've slept with three boys, but the truth is I'm still a virgin. The problem is, I'm going out with a boy who also thinks I'm sexually experienced. I feel so guilty, and every day I worry I'll slip up and get my story wrong. How can I get rid of this guilt? Blur fan (15), Brighton

 Do you think your friends and your boyfriend will like you any more, just because you've had sex? Or are you hoping they'll admire you because you've had sex with three

boys? Basically, I think you're fooling yourself. People like you for you, not your sexual exploits. If you want to stop feeling guilty, confess. After all, keeping up a lie is hard work, and if you do slip up your friends will feel let down in a big way.

# I'm always really **late**

My boyfriend and I always fight about the same thing – my bad time keeping. On Saturdays, he likes to meet at 6.30pm, so I have to rush home from my job, change and rush out again. I'm always at least 10 minutes late – he has a go at me and I end up storming off! Help! Sara (16), Kent

• If you want to get to the bottom of your problems, you and your boyfriend must start listening to each other. He's trying to tell you that it's horrible waiting in the cold for someone who could've rung to say they'd be late. Likewise, you need to ask him why he insists on meeting so early. Then compromise!

## body talk

## Is **smoking** dangerous?

My friends all smoke and I'd like to try it, but I'm afraid of getting addicted. If I smoked one or two every couple of days, would it be bad for me?

Ronan fan (16)

● Despite what you think, it isn't easy to have 'just a couple' of cigarettes now and then. The effects of tobacco are immediate, and they build up with each puff you take. When you smoke, your

heart speeds up and your blood pressure increases. Before long, you'll be addicted to the nicotine and feel irritable and depressed if you don't have a cigarette.

As for the health risks, smokers are 24 times more likely to get lung cancer. You also increase the risk of getting heart disease, bronchitis and severe breathing problems. If that doesn't put you off smoking, I don't know what will!

### Help yourself by...

- Realising that smoking kills three million people a year globally.
- Not starting research says six out of ten smokers want to give up.
- Seeking help on how to kick the habit. Call ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) on 0171-935 3519.



# CONTOCTO

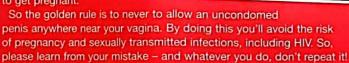
Annabel G

Send your sex-related problems to Annabel G, Advice, Just 17, 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED. It would be helpful if you could include your age.

# Can petting make you pregnant?

A few weeks ago my boyfriend and I were heavy petting and the tip of his penis went inside me for about 30 seconds – but he didn't come. I've had my period since, but one of my best friends says you can get pregnant this way. Is this true? Name withheld

• 'Fraid so. So promise me you'll never let your boyfriend do this again. And here's why: before a lad actually ejaculates (releases semen), his body releases a bit of pre-ejaculatory liquid from the tip of his penis. This liquid, like semen itself, contains thousands of baby-making sperm. And as sussed gals know, it only takes one spermatozoa to get pregnant.





### The seX Files

Many girls think their boyfriends will chuck 'em if they won't succumb to sex. Well, according to research, that ain't necessarily so. In fact, 80 per cent of lads surveyed said they respect a girl's right to say no, and that they'd never dump a girlfriend just 'cause she didn't want rumpy. Right on boys!

# Where's my **G-spot?**

I've just started to let my boyfriend finger me, and the other night he asked me if I'd found my G-spot. I said no and that I didn't think I had one. But the truth is, I don't know what he meant. What is a G-spot and how do find it? Mark Owen fan, Doncaster

• Good question. Many years ago a German gynaecologist called Ernest Grafenberg identified a sensitive area or 'G-spot' about two inches up and inside the upper wall of the vagina. He reckoned that when this area is stimulated it can bring about an intense orgasm.

Women have been trying to find the G-spot ever since, often without success. But one bodily bit which is easily identifiable is the clitoris, the pea-like bump at the top of the vaginal entrance. Stimulation of the clitoris feels very pleasurable, and is far more likely to result in orgasm than searching for an area which may not even exist. So my advice is: don't fret about your G-spot, you're normal whether you find it or not.

### Should I **sleep** with him?

My boyfriend has asked me to have sex and I feel that I'm ready. There's just one problem: he has a reputation for going with lots of girls, and says he can't promise he'll be faithful to me. I love him, so I don't know whether to risk it. What should I do? Paul Nicholls fan (16)

• Eek! Sounds like your self-respect tank is running on empty. Of course, when you're mad about someone it's hard to extract them from the lurve lobe of the brain. But we all have to make difficult decisions that work to our advantage in the long run. And if you're just a number on his list, you're at risk emotionally and physically.

We all have to find our own moral ground, and I believe monogamy is the best way to conduct a sex life. But if you do have sex with this lad, please use a condom every time.

## Condom **trouble**

My boyfriend and I have got to the heavy petting stage and now we want to have full intercourse. We've talked about contraception, but I'm really confused about it. He refuses to wear a condom and wants me to go on the Pill. But I'm not sure I want to. Spice Girls fan (16)

Just re-phrase your fave band's ditty: "If you wanna be my lover... You'll have to wear a condom, boy!" OK, so it's not half so tuneful, but it makes perfect sense. Sex without a condom is just too dangerous in this age of AIDS. If you want to go on the Pill for extra protection against pregnancy, that's fine. Contact your local family planning clinic for further advice.

But if your boyfriend still refuses to wear a condom, then you must say no to sex. You could also suggest he reads some current information about HIV. That'll have him condomming in no time.

### **The seX Files**

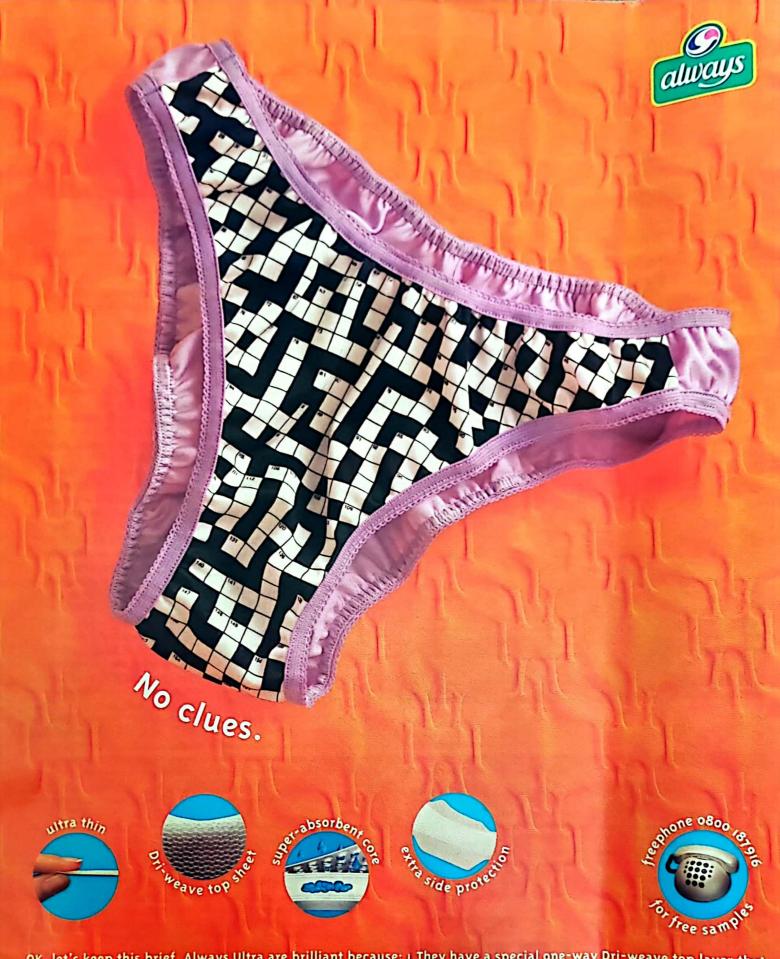
It's 1997 and equality rules!
Get this: 90 per cent of lads
think it's cool for a girl to
make the first romantic
move. So, if you meet a nice
lad, don't wait until next
Christmas to ask him out.
Now, there's an exciting
New Year's resolution for ya!

## Feedback

I've just read the letter from the girl who thinks she may have caught something from having sex ('Confidential', 20 Nov). I'd just like to say, don't worry, but do go and get it checked out straight away. A couple of months ago I became very itchy after having sex with my boyfriend. I freaked out and thought I'd caught something, even though my boyfriend has never slept with anyone else. Anyway, I went to the family planning clinic and the doctor there was really sympathetic. She said I had something called thrush and gave me a special cream. It was gone within a week. So don't be frightened to ask for help. JP (16)

• Sussed advice, JP. When it comes to sexual probs, it's vital to seek medical attention. Nine times out of ten, it's nothing at all, and the tenth time it's something quick and easy to treat. Thrush is a yeast infection and a lot of girls suffer from it. Just go to the doc and they'll have you sorted in a jiffy.

Photo posed by model



OK, let's keep this brief. Always Ultra are brilliant because: 1. They have a special one-way Dri-weave top layer that draws moisture in. 2. They have a super-absorbent core that lets almost nothing back out, so you feel clean and dry. 3. You can get them with the extra protection of wings. All of which means that an Always Ultra pad has about as much chance of leaking as you have of finishing the Times crossword. ULTRA PROTECTION. ALWAYS.

# Coys VEW



For a boy's view on your problems, write to Nick Fisher, Advice, Just 17, 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED. He's happy to answer letters from male readers too.

# Can I see two girls at once?

Last summer on holiday I had a fling with this great girl.

Afterwards we kept in touch and although we live miles apart, we've seen each other a few times. The trouble is, I went to a party recently and got off with another girl I've

fancied for ages. It's my big chance to get something going with her, but I don't want to lose the girl I met on holiday. Seeing as they don't know each other, do you think I could get away with dating them both?

Kris

● Two-timing is not a good way to behave. Even if you can get away with it for a while, you'll have it on your conscience. It seems you have two different types of relationships here: one with someone you're going to see regularly, the other with a girl you see occasionally. Can't you be honest and tell your holiday friend you want to see someone nearby? She may feel the same way. You could agree



to let each other get on with your lives, but still keep in touch as friends. That way you're not deceiving anyone. I know it's hard to let a good thing go, but if you hold on to it you run the risk of losing both girls. You also run the risk of hating yourself for cheating.

# His girlfriend is **a bully**

I've been the victim of builying all my life. Recently, though, this guy I know has been really kind to me. It's been a great relief after so many years of feeling sorry for myself. But there's a problem – his girlfriend is one of the biggest bullies I've ever known. She told him to keep away from me and because he didn't want to lose her, he agreed. So now I've lost the one person who meant so much to me. Caroline

 Having your life ruled by bullies is a misery. But there has to come a point where you stop letting them dominate you. There's a risk you'll end up blaming everyone for doing things to you, and won't feel you have power over your own life. This boy obviously wants to be your friend, so don't let his girlfriend whisk him away. What right has she to influence your life? Fighting back isn't easy and you may find it helpful to talk to the Anti-Bullying Campaign on 0171-378 1446. Talk to your parents too – you'll need their support to beat the bullies.

## He snaps bra straps

There's a boy at our school who has this really annoying habit of pinging girls' bra straps whenever they're not

looking. It's very irritating and can sting too! A few girls I know have told him to cut it out, but he just ignores them. What is it with boys and bras? Is there any hope? Peter Andre fan

Any boy who goes around pinging girls' bras needs to be taught a lesson. It may seem like a silly joke, but it's a form of harassment. Some girls might be able to laugh this off, but others will be upset and offended. This guy needs to realise he can't treat girls like this. My advice is tell him to stop or you'll report him. If he doesn't heed your warning, then tell a teacher or an adult you trust and get them to talk to him. You might think this seems a bit petty to make such a fuss about, but if he doesn't learn, he might start pinching bottoms or putting his hand up skirts next. He's a thoughtless, sexist prat who needs to learn that this behaviour will not be tolerated. If you girls unite, you can put an end to his pathetic behaviour.

## l got off with his **brothe**r

I went to a party last week and, because I was a bit drunk, I ended up getting off with this guy from school. The problem is, my best boy mate happens to be his brother. I love him a lot as a friend, but I'd hate him to know I've got off with his kid brother. I'm sure he'll be upset as I know he secretly fancies me. Help! Gary Barlow fan

● I don't think your problem is with either of these guys – I think it's with you. The way you talk about getting drunk and copping off, it's as if it was out of your control and not your fault, which isn't the case. It's time you took responsibility for your actions. You're worried now that you might have hurt your friend by getting off with his little brother. But you must have known this in

the first place. You need to decide who you really care about, and how you want to lead your life. Do this and you'll spare yourself similar angst in the future. It really is time to take stock.

# Can I make it bigger?

I'm a 16-year-old boy and my problem is my penis. It's so tiny! I've only had one girlfriend, but because I was so nervous that she'd laugh at me, I found it really difficult to get intimate with her. We don't see each other any more and now I'm worried that no girl will show any interest in me if they find out what's hiding inside my trousers. What should I do? Are there any exercises I can do to make it bigger? A very embarrassed Oasis fan

 There is nothing you can do to make your penis bigger. And there's no reason why you should need to. Sadly, you've fallen into the trap of believing that the size of your penis relates to your worth as a boyfriend. It doesn't. A big penis doesn't automatically make you a good sexual partner. What makes a great lover is a great person. Someone who is kind, funny, attentive, interesting and interested. Would you dump your girlfriend because of the size of her breasts? If your love and affection goes beyond something so superficially physical, why should you expect hers not to?

Don't worry about your penis. When erect, penises vary surprisingly little in size. But more importantly, it's the amount of affection you share with a girl that matters, not the size of your penis. From the sound of it, you aren't ready for sex yet. You need to spend more time getting to know girls. When you feel comfortable with a girl, you'll be able to take it further without worrying like this.

Be sure, be safe and remember sex under 16 is illegal

# Day by day HOROSCOPE

Potential snog day

You understand why

Wednesday was you

last chance Whether

this makes you happy

how Wednesday went

Just because you can

doesn't mean that you

have to or even that

you should do. What

exactly are you trying

or sad depends on

ther you're happy

or not. If you are, you

you're not, asking

isn't gonna help.

You're feeling pretty

pleased with yourself

today. No real reason,

just that things are

you're enjoying it.

You're happy to be

with him. Your head is

full of little dreams of

your future together

You meet a mate today

exactly the same place

exactly the same thing.

Life's weird sometim

Saturday night out

with the girls. Same

same mates. You're

beginning to find it

all a bit predictable

Your parents are

time, same place,

Luckily for him, he

who's just been to

as you and done

knows nothing.

going your way, and

Mon

yesterday's question

is yes, and you're as

happy as you've been

for ages. All because

You're expecting to get

something for nothing,

and it probably won't

work. You have to give

something in return.

You're quite tempted

to get back together

again 'cause you're

so well-suited. But

it's a bad idea.

deep down you know

don'tcha know.

of him, naturally.

life wond

6 Jan The end of the

Fraid so, and this term

dramatic as that? Surprise announcement time and the biggest shock of all is that you're the one making it. You're

Your parents have plans for you. You should have seen this one coming, but too late making a decision. they've got you.

Today's a day to let things happen at their own pace. So don't go rushing yourself (or anyone else) into anything.

Is it time to introduce the rest of your family to your nev squeeze, or will it frighten the poor lad off, d'you think?

of happe too good to miss

Scorching stuff veen your planet and his, but it's in a hidden part of the sky, which means nobody sees it. We won't tell.

An ambition forms today. Until now you never knew just how badly you wanted to do it. But from now on it's the top of your list. Don't let yourself get

caught in arguments You'll take them seriously, but your mates are just trying to wind you up.

g to be

holidays, so soon? is going to be an important one. So get

person you want to life with, But are you also sure you're not going a bit far here? Together for ever or together for never, today. But does it

amazed yourself.

As soon as you've said it, you wish you hadn't. But it's too late. A certain relationship will never be quite

One. How are you going to tell him everything has to be different betw you from now on? Best day of the week as far as planetary influences go, and if you've got it, use it.

nd hormones are ling you, life wil never be the sar again? Oh, good.

for '97. So let's see

really have to be as

This is no time to be shy and secretive.

You said you would. You told your mates, you told your mum. It was your big resolution Looks like you and he could be in the same class for some subjects. Suddenly

21 Mar-20 Apr

You feel like you're waiting for permission from somebody, as if they're holding you back. But that's just an excuse, really.

If you're going to phone him or ask him out, it has to be now. The planets are saving this is absolutely your

You realise you were wrong about something and feel stupid. Why? It was an honest mistake

- we all make 'em You know all those things you said you were going to do this year? Well, you've changed your mind

You

pass. But you k

it means far more

Try looking at the

situation from your

- it'll help you see

why they think the

What one friend

told you was true

is false. Which one

should you trust?

Or are both liars?

another now tells you

Remember that money

you borrowed from

your mum to buy a

Crimbo pressie for

she'd like it back now

You're having second

thoughts. Not about

New Year resolutions

but about something

much more important.

wasn't she before?

Your love life

someone? Well,

way they do.

parent's point of view

truth about something

important today. Are

little bit - but at least

you angry? Yes, a

you know now.

after yesterday. to prove, anyway? It's hard to find the right things to say after yesterday. You're going to see him, but how can you say hello as if and have a nice life. nothing happened?

Don't you just hate it You're getting when someone shows interested in a lad you how you should who you see every have done it all along. day. Why, you ask, and makes you hadn't you fancied look really dumb? him before?

Small but significant moves in the sky show your mood's me If you don't get it all done today, there's

always tomorrow. w lad enti 've been s for a while but telling anyone about? You're getting yourself into something a bit

dodgy here. Go very slowly until you're absolutely sure you know what's involved.

Well, what's this? what. A male, a lad,

Time to boldly go where you, at least, have never gone mates you can be

before Show your radical and original too. You're angry. Not sure what about.

stop it, the better it'll be for everyone else. A day of revelations. You'll discover your feelings for someone have changed, quite

encouraging your latest romance. You can't handle this, it's too weird. Can't they You have this

amazing ability to make friends with the most unusual people. There, you see? You're

off doing it again. You get close to the lad you fancy today - but you're not ready to reveal anything yet. Just check him out

and drool over him. Why is everyone being so nice to you today? Well, there're planetary reasons, but let's

say it's your natural Sagittarian charm. Yeah, well, a girl can be too radical

and original. Slop back into your old bad habits for a day, and love every minute.

Light shines in dark corners and searches things out. If you've got anything to hide, be prepared to be found out.

ne of the You're being praised today. Actually it's a little bit over the top. but of course you don't say so - you lap is all up the compliments

your books in order You're sure he's the

spend the rest of your that's the way it looks

You see The Other

You decide to turn over a new leaf and be a much better person. Well done, even though everyone else

did this five days ago. A 'hello maturity, goodbye childhood day, when anothe cosy slice of your past gets slung into the trash can of history.

it in action, huh?

the new term doesn seem so bad after all. Another good day. The stars are obviously well pleased with you, cause this is the fourth good day on the trot. Who'd have thought? You're being reasonable now. So either you saw se at last or you got what you wanted. Knowing you, it's the second. Today's a sweet and gentle day, according to the stars. Since

you've had a real week of it, you could do with one. It's not love. Not yet, anyway. But despite telling yourself you wouldn't care if you never saw him again, you would, you know.

A good time to apologise for yesterday's events. The stars will put you in the mood for a reconciliation. You get lucky today.

It's not much, but it's there when you need it. And it makes the difference between winning and losing.

Amazingly, some of your Christmas money is still unspent, So rush out and buy something, quick!

You know things are going to turn out right today, so when they do vou're not surprised. Takes the fun out of

it, really, doesn't it? it shouldn't the opposite in fact.

Everyone, but everyone, wants you to be their friend today. ingredient, you've got buckets of it.

The gossip about you is spreading like wildfire. You're not going to say yes or no - the rumours will last longer that way.

Taurus 21 Apr-21 May

last chance. Gemimi

round his iready. Great way to start a new year, arguing with 22 Jun-23 Jul your parents about

> trusted or not. But that's how it is. If you get into a pointless argument yourself to blame. Oh, and maybe a

whether you can be

few planets too. Bet you've got a whole Virgo list of resolutions 24 Aug-23 Sep - Virgos always do. But don't you think you're being a bit

Libra

24 Oct-22 Nov

Pisces 20 Feb-20 Mar

<u>cittariu</u>

Here you are facing a new year and stuck with the same problem you had last year. You'll have to make

hard on yourself?

a choice soon. One last little thing from last year still

needs doing, and until you do it you can't get on with '97. So get it done then, sharpish,

You had plans for today, but so have the rest of your family. Pity the two sets of plans don't match. Guess

Three things dawn on you: how close the start of the new school term is, how much you've got to do, and how little you've done

Do you want him to at you like a real lady or an equal? II. a bit of both

cares?

which one wins?

hopefully. Yeah, in your

If you're very careful and very quick, you can easily undo what you just did. before anybody realises you did it. Someone you trusted now admits they passed on a secret Well, at least she's honest now. Why

It's a boy, that's

a hunk. Have you forgotten what they look like or something?

maybe with yourself But the sooner you

dramatically. What a relief that is.

Happy birthday to you! A big hand for actor Denzil Washington whose birthday's on 28 December

# turn on tune in turn on

### Dani Dares

The time: 11.05pm, Fri

3 January The place:

The buzz: Intrepid Dani Behr goes a bit Anneka Rice on us. Every week she tries her hand at an



unusual job - fire-fighting, bodyguarding, stand-up comedy. You name it. Well, just as long as she doesn't try being a TV personality...

## Face Value

The time: 7.30pm, Mon 6

January

The place: BBC1

The buzz: Investigative reports on fashion and beauty issues such as male cosmetic surgery. Coo-er!

### OWS

The time: 10.25 pm, Wed 1 January

The place: C4

The buzz: An hour-long spesh



of funny lad Eddie Izzard's first sit-com. Sex 'n' cud 'n' rock 'n' roll with Boo, Thor, Shirley, Rex and Toby - the family

who really were born in a barn.

# Soap Central Switch onto our weekly round-up

### **Coronation Street**

Maxine decides to embellish the truth about her unfortunate encounter. Anne's fed up when she realises Curly's back and she has to return to her old job. Tricia and Jamie are getting their feet under the table at the Rovers - much to Jack's dismay. He's thinking about his wallet, no doubt.

### tolivoaks

Cheryl: sofa

so good

Dawn can think of nothing but her daughter and the pending transplant.

Maddy gets an unwanted visitor, and Tony and Julie take things a step further. Whooooah! Jude returns from New York with piles of shopping.



## Neighbours

Danni gets a call from an up-and-coming pop star who saw her dress in the local paper. She can't believe her luck. Lou is approached by a magazine for an exclusive on Cheryl's plight, but despite the prospect of loadsa cash, Cheryl refuses to play ball.

### Emmerdale

The first thrice-weekly episode of your favourite country soap, and to get things

off to a steamy start Kelly Windsor begins the new year with a whopping tongue sarnie with school teacher Tom. The lass is totally besotted with him. But isn't she just asking for trouble?

### Home and Away

Ailsa sues the hospital after Alf's relapse. It looks like Kelly's going to get the blame, though it's certainly not her fault. Luckily the matter settles out of court and Kelly discovers villainous James on the golf course once again. Who needs doctors like him?

## **EastEnders**

Peggy's planning a big New

Year's Eve party at the Vic. Meanwhile, things between Grant and Tiffany are tense after the arguments over the festive period. Joe attends the New Year's Eve do at the Vic and gets talking to a couple of chicks. The lad thinks his luck's in until the girls get wind of his weirdness and back off. But what's that gonna do to Joe?



Quote of the

"There's not much fun in my life. I don't want to sound whiney - I do have some moments of happiness. But it's been a week since I've seen a person of my own age." Claire Danes on the pressures of her so-called life.



# film

## Sleepers (15) The deal: When a joke goes tragically

wrong, four mates get sent to detention centre, where they're attacked and



abused by the sicko guards. Years later they return to avenge their lost innocence in spectacular style.

Sounds pretty realistic: The author say's it's a true story, everyone else denies it. Who cares? It's gripping, and has heaps of Brad Pitt, Brad Renfro and Jason Patric.



Worth a watch? Definitely, On screen: 3 January

# video

## Murder In The irst (15)

Gripping true tale of a petty thief (Kevin Bacon), who kills an inmate



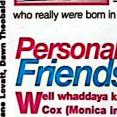
at America's scariest prison Alcatraz with (gulp!) - a spoon! Enter solicitor Christian Slater who attempts to prove that the jail conditions were

responsible for the murder. Powerful stuff.

To buy: 6 Jan

# **Daylight** rubbery

Former Catwoman
Michelle Pfeiffer has a handy hint for soon-to-be Batman George Clooney: "Make sure they give you a trapdoor in your Batsuit. They get you in this contraption and to go to the bathroom, you have to completely disrobe and it takes an hour to get it back on."



ell whaddaya know? Courteney Cox (Monica in Friends) was the first person ever to say the word 'period' on American TV when she appeared in a Tampax ad. "I was a struggling actress who really needed the money,"

says Courteney, who hoped no-one would see the commercial. But it was shown on prime time and half the world saw her make feminine hygiene history. Nowt to be ashamed of there, Courts love.

# tune in turn music



How did the success of your single with Gabrielle feel?

You're all growing up now, so is it strange when people

call East 17 a boy band?

Is it weird singing all on your own?

When you wrote Hey Child, did you know you'd be singing it solo?

ssst! Wanna write to ex-Take Thatter Markie Owen? Well, we've got his fanclub address! Get scribbling to: Mark Owen Fan Club, PO Box 5405, London W7 1ZT. And while you're about it, ask him from us to get his skanky trousers sorted out.



way



wa-hey



what



wussy

### Norman & Christopher Down The Pub

Arthur Baker - the man who put the spacey bits into Babylon



Zoo - is behind this. A man repeats 'Dahn the pub' over and over. And it's really annoying.

ou're a fan of grungers Garbage, you'll love this video compilation of their

singles. From Stupid Girl to the band's last groovy single, cool collection from Shirley Manson and chums. And at the bargain



price of only £8.99 it won't trash your wallet either.

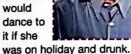
### George Michael Older EP

There are four tunes from George here, including Older, I Can't Make You Love Me and \_\_

The Strangest Thing. And you know just what that strangest thing is? That they're all rubbish that your mum



would dance to it if she



WIN! WIN! WIN!

Clubbers' paradise
We've 15 sets of Robert Miles' album Dreamland and a clubland compilation Q Vision to give away. Q Vision features the best club sounds around, while Dreamland includes Children and recent hit One & One. Each must-have set is worth £26! Send the Xword to J17/Miles & Q Vision, Xword 440, 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED by 10 January 1997.



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- See photoclue (5) Glasgow footie team (7)
- 8 & 9 Sexy star of Trainspotting and Brassed
- 9 See 8 across 10 Barbara who's Rita in Corrie (4)
- 11 & 17 Morticia, Gomez, Wednesday,
- Uncle Fester (3,6,6)
- 12 Venue or snoot TV programme (5)
  13 —— Lions (Baddiel, Skinner and The
- Lightning Seeds) (5)

  16 —— Of Dreams (Kevin Costner movie) (5)
- 19 Coronation Street cab driver (3)
- 20 Beverly Hills (Eddie Murphy movie) (3) 21 Inter —, top Italian footie team (5)
- 17 See 11 across
- 23 Zoe's profession in Emmerdale (3) 25 He's EastEnders' Phil Mitchell (5,8)

- Deep Blue Something had theirs at Tiffany's (9)
- 2 How Rocket From The Crypt
- climbed the charts? (2,1,4)
- 4 TV region (6)
- 5 Edina Vegas becomes a movie
- babe (anag 5,5)
  6 She's Jack's wife in Emmerdale (5,6)
- 7 Fresh Prince Will of Independence Day fame (5)
- That (4)

NAME:

- 14 A flower like Mrs Bouquet (8)
- 15 Neighbours regular Szonert (5)
- 18 Northern —— (rock band) (6) 19 X-Files Duchovny (6)
- 20 That tick-tock pop group (5)
- 22 Oasis member (4)
- 24 Her surname's Braxton (4)

CROSSWORD ANSWERS 438 11 DEC ACROSS: 1 Spice Girls; 6 & 13 To Die For; 9 Video; 10 (Mark F) Owl (er); 11 Tonicha (Jeronimo); 12 Duo; 14 Prime (Suspect); 15 Suede; 17 How (Bizarre); 19 Richard Gere; 23 (Mark) Owen; 24 Hollyoaks; 26 Libby Kennedy DOWN: 1 Seven Days (And One Weekl: 2 Independence (Pau'); 3 F-One Week); 2 Independence (Day); 3 E-Motion; 4 (All) I Want; 5 Lou Carpenter; 7 Only One; 8 Toadfish; 16 Ewan (McGregor); 18 Whitney (Houston); 19 Rachel; 20 Damage; 21 Edward (Scissorhands); 22 Club; 25 (Father And) Son

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ADDRESS:	-

### Get to those phon

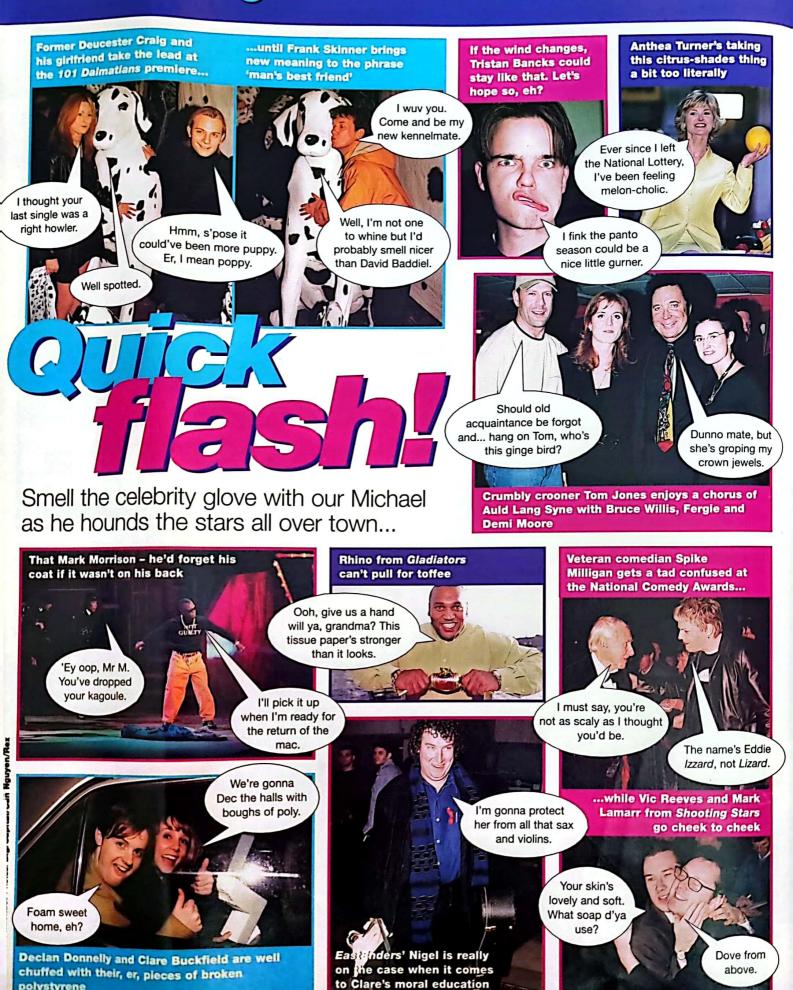
Page 5: Win X-Files books

Phone your answer on 0891 408834

Page 40: Win tickets to the Fashion Cafe
Phone your answer on 0891 408835

Closing date for competitions 10 January 1997. Please remember that calls to these lines are more expensive than ordinary calls. You should always ask the permission of the person who pays the phone bill before making the call. Calls are charged at 45p per minute cheap rate and 50p per minute at all other times.

## 7 days of groovers 'n' schmoozers





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NO Wyou can receive "The International Collection" by Pia as a personalised Beauty Service in monthly selections. Each selection is personally chosen for you by Pia, the renowned International Beauty specialist and her team of experts who will use the answers you provide below to create a personal selection of colour and formulation that is just right FOR YOU. As soon as your colours and formulations have been finalised, you will be sent your first Personal Colour Cosmetics Selection, which will reflect this personal care.

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Tel: 01832 734301 Fax: 01832 733742

Over £16.00 worth of hand picked exclusive cosmetics SAVE OVER £5.00\* delivered to your door for only £10.99 + p & p

Every item will be specially formulated to suit your own hair, skin and eye colouring, and will be selected to bring out

Now tell us about yourse	olf. Please read each question carefully and		6. Which of these best describes your hair?	Send no money
choose the answer which most closely applies to you. Put this number in the box (one number only).			1 Thick and coarse (may be unmanageable, feels wiry/rough) 2 Medium thickness and texture (usually	NOW
			manageable and holds a style)	Please enrol me as a member of the Pia Beauty
1. What is to	he colour of your eyes? 2 Light Brown/Hazel 3 Blue 4 Green		3 Thin and fine (flattens out/lacks bounce)	Club & send me my own Personal Colour Cosmetics Selection. I may return it if I wish.
5 Grey			<ul><li>7. What length is your hair at present?</li><li>1 Long (below shoulder level) 2 Medium (between</li></ul>	If I decide to keep it I will pay £10.99 (+£2.99 p& p). I understand that I will be entitle
	our skin tone? Medium 3 Light Brown/Medium Brown		jawline and shoulder level) 3 Short (above jawline)	to receive further selections on the same "look before I buy" basis. I may cancel my
4 Dark Brown			8. How curly is your hair at present? 1 Straight 2 Wavy 3 Curly	membership at any time without giving a reason
	our skin type?	$\overline{}$	0 0 1 1 1 1 170	First Name
spots blackhe	shiny within an hour of cleansing; prone to ads, open pores) 2 Balanced (looks shiny hours of cleansing; occasional spots and	Ш	9. Do you have dandruff? 1 Yes quite often 2 Yes occasionally 3 No	First Name Surname Address
blackheads)	nours or cleansing; occasional spots and	П	10. What condition are your hands in?	
	ooks shiny; feels taut, fine-textured)		1 Soft and smooth 2 A bit dry 3 Rough and very dry	
	(oily panel on forehead, nose and chin; and under eyes) 5 Sensitive (very dry,		11. Which of these best describes your nails?	Postcode PLEASE
	rone to irritation and thread veins)	ч	1 Soft and Weak 2 Normal 3 Hard and brittle	Tel. No
4. What is t	ne colour of your hair?		12. Do you have acne?	Signature
	light, medium or dark blonde)	15	1 Yes 2 No	If under 18 Parent/Guardian
	3 Medium Brown 4 Dark Brown/Black			It under 18 Parent/Guardian
100	er/copper/chestnut/auburn) 6 Grey	Ц	1 3. Do you wear contact lenses? 1 Yes 2 No	Signature
5. What is y			A STATE OF THE STA	Further offers from other reputable organisations may be
	nd greasy within two days of shampooing)	Ш	14. Do you wear glasses?	made to you. If you prefer not to receive such mailings please tick the bax.
	y and manageable) 3 Dry (flyaway, Over-processed (very dry and brittle from		1 Yes 2 No	
perming or ble	The state of the s		*On current catalogue prices	JS4



